

Britain under siege as Commonwealth steps up pressure

Thatcher will stand alone on sanctions

Mrs Thatcher faces tomorrow's Commonwealth mini-summit against a background of criticism over sanctions... Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, has accused Britain of putting material gain before human rights...



Miss Joanna Toch, an England team member at the Commonwealth Games, talking to Mrs Thatcher after pushing through a police cordon in Edinburgh (Photograph: Tom Kidd)

Thatcher target at Games

By John Goodbody Sports News Correspondent Mrs Margaret Thatcher was the target of eggs and tomatoes thrown by demonstrators, booing from spectators and indifference from competitors when she visited the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh yesterday.

Delhi threat adds to deadlock fear

By Rodney Cowton Commonwealth Heads of Government arriving in London today will plunge into an intensive round of bilateral consultations in an attempt to lay the ground for an agreement over sanctions against South Africa and avert a crisis in the Commonwealth.

Monday Special operations

Is the buildup of its anti-terrorist forces increasing the risk of America going to war? President Botha of South Africa issued orders yesterday to curfew curfew and curfew curfew...

Botha sidesteps curfews ruling

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg The commissioner was not authorised to re-delegate such powers to a third party. Divisional police commissioners, usually brigadiers, have issued numerous orders under the state of emergency...

Another estate agent incident

Police find Mr Kipper clue By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter did not return. Speaking on the fifth day of the search for the woman, Det Insp Peter Johnstone said the incident involving another estate agent was being investigated...

Majorca is royal spot for holiday

From Richard Wigg Madrid The Prince and Princess of Wales are to spend a week holidaying on the island of Majorca as guests of the Spanish royal family, beginning next week, informed sources said here yesterday.

Portfolio Gold

The Times Portfolio Gold daily competition prize of £4,000 was shared yesterday between two readers: Mr S. McCall of Oxton, Merseyside; and Mr J.M. Lodge of Ealing, London.

5 missing after ship hits rocks

An air and sea search was launched off the south-west coast of Ireland last night for five men missing after a fishing trawler sank on rocks. Ten other crewmen were rescued when the Contessa Ven hit rocks off Bere Island, in Bantry Bay, near Castletownbere, Co Cork.

German soldiers lop head off nuclear rocket

Bonn (AP) - West German soldiers accidentally tore a nuclear warhead off a rocket during routine maintenance last week at a Nato base in Bavaria. Lieutenant-General Hans-Heinz Feldhoff, deputy inspector for the West German Army, said the incident occurred when a West German sergeant operating a crane ac-

Chess draw

The third game of the world chess championship between Gary Kasparov and Anatoly Karpov ended in an uneventful draw last night after 35 moves.

Sogat to obey ban on mass pickets

The print union Sogat yesterday decided to comply with a High Court injunction banning mass picketing at the News International plant in Wapping, east London. The union's 36-member national executive made its decision after a five-hour meeting at Sogat's headquarters in Hatfield, near Southend, Essex.

Papers ablaze in mob rampage

By David Sapsted A police inquiry began last night into an attack by a 200-strong mob which stormed a TNT newspaper distribution centre in Theford, Norfolk, and burnt copies of The Times and The Sun and caused extensive damage. The attack, in which flames were fired, more than 20 vehicles damaged by stones and concrete blocks, and office windows smashed, came early yesterday, just hours after the High Court had banned print unions from staging mass pickets at the News International plant in Wapping in east London.

New talks

Mr Rupert Murdoch, Chairman of News International, yesterday met the committee representing the production staff of the company's plant at Wapping. Mr Murdoch told the staff committee that News International had been approached by Mr Eric Hammond, General Secretary of the EETPU, on behalf of the TUC. As a result, the company is prepared to meet the striking print unions again at a date to be arranged.

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Indian plans Plea to Queen Diplomacy exhausted Geoffrey Smith at Nassau last October, and that stronger measures would be required to bring pressure on South Africa than those discussed at Nassau. Those measures, listed in the Commonwealth Accord on Southern Africa, included the possibility of a ban on air links with South Africa, a ban on investment and the import of South African agricultural products, and a ban on government contracts.

Table with 2 columns: Home News, Overseas, Appes, Arts, Births/Deaths, marriages, Bridge, Business, Chess, Court, Crosswords, Diary, Law Report, Leaders, Letters, Obituary, Religion, Services, Sport, TV & Radio, Universities, Weather.

RETIRED? WE GUARANTEE TO MAXIMISE YOUR INCOME. HOW? BY ADVISING YOU WHICH INVESTMENTS GIVE THE BEST PROSPECTS FOR INCOME AND GROWTH. Knight Williams Independent Financial Advice. 33 Cork Street, London W1X 1HB. 01-409-0271.

Ulster jobs lost as firms give up defence work

Two more firms ended contracts with the security forces yesterday after Provisional IRA threats to contractors which have cost 80 jobs in a province where unemployment is 125,888.

The results of the terrorist campaign in the north were visible elsewhere with soldiers patrolling the streets of a border town for the first time in five years and the funeral of the Protestant businessman, John Kyle, who was killed by the IRA because he supplied cement and sand to the security forces.

A construction firm yesterday ended its maintenance contract for an RAF station in Lisnakea, County Fermanagh, and announced that it would no longer continue with the work at the air base.

He hoped people in the North's own construction industry could do the work and provide supplies, but he hinted that if that was not possible materials would come from Britain.

Mr James said that, despite the damage to vehicles, all newspapers and distribution points served by the Theford depot had received at least some copies of the two titles.

"My staff here have been absolutely first class in responding to the attack. Morale is excellent and we will all be carrying on as normal," he said.

Inspector Ray Wright was at the depot yesterday discussing future security arrangements. "Obviously, additional measures will be taken," he said.

Mr Alan Jones, managing director of TNT (UK), said later that the company would be going to court on Monday in a move to restrain the print unions from illegal activity against TNT depots.

He blamed recent violence on a "very strong criminal element" but insisted the company would not be swayed from carrying out the News International contract, which had the backing of unions within TNT, including its Transport and General Workers' Union drivers.

Mr Jones said the incident made the staff "even more determined to do the job".

Very few papers were lost in the attack because of the company's contingency plans, he said.

"The staff and drivers responded magnificently," he said.

After the attack, he said, drivers had delivered the papers in their damaged vans. "That is what I mean by determination and high morale," he said.

Mr John Prescott, Labour's chief employment spokesman, yesterday repeated his appeal to Lord Young of Grafham, Secretary of State for Employment, to intervene in the News International dispute after the High Court ban on mass picketing at the company's plant at Wapping.

Mr Prescott said the judgement will "inevitably fuel the bitterness felt in this dispute".

He led a delegation of Labour MPs who had a private meeting with Lord Young and Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Employment Minister, two months ago to discuss the dispute involving 5,500 dismissed News International print workers. Since then, he said, there had been no move towards a settlement.

He told Lord Young yesterday: "Indeed I feel that the dispute is escalating, particularly in view of the court decision on Thursday which restricted even further the right of workers to picket and peacefully communicate their case."

"Some of these restrictions stem from the re-registration of the companies involved, thus removing the dispute from Gray's Inn Road to the Wapping site. Even your Government's 1980 Act was not intended to deny the right to picket the place of original dispute."

Last night, Mr Clarke rejected Mr Prescott's request. "We gave up the process of government conciliation between employer and trade unions in industrial disputes a long time ago for one very good reason: even with beer and sandwiches it did not work."



A TNT truck (left) that had its windscreen smashed in the mob attack. Concrete blocks and other missiles landed at the back of a private vehicle (top right) and windows at the depot building were shattered. (Photographs: John Manning)

Papers set ablaze Minister urged to act on Wapping

Continued from page 1

and almost 7,000 copies of *The Times*. News International sent 148,000 extra copies of the two papers to East Anglia within hours of the attack.

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Third title draw an uneventful affair

The third game of the world chess championship between Gary Kasparov and Anatoly Karpov ended in a draw last night after 33 moves. The split decision, the third in succession, was an uneventful affair with the challenger, Kasparov, aged 35, playing white, enjoying what experts called a microscopic edge for much of the game.

After overlooking a clean win in the second game of his world title defence, Kasparov appeared unusually subdued for game three. As in his first encounter with Karpov, the opening was a Grünfeld defence, this time the Schlechter variation.

After an early exchange of pawns in the centre, a symmetrical position arose, but one in which Karpov's pieces were more aggressively posted and commanded greater space. Kasparov appeared uncomfortable in that he used 45 minutes for the opening move, compared with Karpov's 15.

Kasparov continued to ponder over his moves while Karpov moved swiftly and easily, probing the black position for possible targets. Karpov massed his rooks on the "c" file and threatened to smash through in the middle of the board with the huge e4. Kasparov was obliged to fight back and meet this potential advance with an apparently weakening thrust of his "f" pawn.

Karpov broke into the seventh rank with his rook, but at this stage the former champion's play allowed as he searched for a clear way to use his advantage. Black, formerly in disarray, regrouped and grandmasters were full of praise for Kasparov's elastic defensive manoeuvres. Three games have now been played for three draws.

Soviet officials are impressed at the high level of public attention their players are attracting. They are considering use of revolutionary British technology to relay the

Five share British championship lead

After four rounds of the Kleinwort Greaveson British Chess Championship five players share the lead with 3½ points: Murray Chandler, James Pleskett, Jonathan Mestel, Mark Hebden and William Watson (Harry Golombek writes).

Murray Chandler won one of the most exciting games in the championship so far, beating Devaki Prasad of India. Chandler sacrificed a knight to get fierce play and under deep time pressure he found the only winning way. The top encounter between William Watson and Mark Hebden ended in a draw after an entertaining game in which Hebden was a pawn up but was outplayed by Watson's active pieces.

The women's contest is led by Susan Arkell, Droitwich, ahead of Christine Flear, Leicester, on 3.

The British Champion of 1985, Jonathan Speelman, outplayed his opponent, Feliks Kwiatkowski, in this way (White, Kwiatkowski):

8	R	B							
7									
6									
5									
4									
3									
2									
1									
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	

Sicilian Opening

1	B4	C5	11	A	0-0
2	N3	N6	12	N3	Qx5
3	O4	Qx4	13	B5	Qx5
4	Nx4	N6	14	Bx5	Nx5
5	Nc3	Q5	15	Nx5	Qx5
6	Bg5	B7	16	Bx6	Bx6
7	Bx6	a6	17	Qx7	Rx8
8	Qx7	a6	18	Qx7	Qx4
9	D4-0	b6	19	Kf1	Rx8
10	Bx4	Bx7	20	Q5	Rx2+

Flag

Jail staff attack Tory plan

Prisoners who are frustrated by their appalling conditions are taking out their anger on prison officers Mr John Bartell, chairman of the Prison Officers' Association, said yesterday.

The Government's new prison plan, announced on Thursday, to change working systems and abolish overtime, would do nothing to cure the ills it had allowed to fester, he said.

The prison staff called for new legislation so that prisoners can complain legally to the Home Office, instead of the officers.

Mr Bartell said the new laws should give the Boards of Visitors, the prison watchdogs, the power to ensure that complaints were dealt with properly. The Prisons Inspectorate should be able to criticize lack of hygiene in jails in the knowledge that the Home Office would have to take action, rather than put the comment on file.

Introducing an association booklet on prisoners' rights, Mr Bartell said there were many hardships that had to be suffered in silence, because they were not dealt with publicly.

He said prisoners in some jails protested that they could not have a change of under-clothing once a week and, when there was a demonstration about it, prison officers were often ordered to move them, thus causing a possible confrontation.

Because of the inadequate washing and sanitary facilities, prisoners would, without thinking, run their wet hands, along the rail of the landing, so that it became covered in urine. Later, officers might put their hands on the rail.

The booklet, which contains evidence to Sir James Hennessy, Chief Inspector of Prisons, says that improvements must be made.

Prisoners' Rights, real or imagined? Complaint Procedures (Prison Officers' Association, Crown House, 245 Church Street, Edmonton, London N9 9HW; £2.50).

Audit call on Labour spending

Mr Mervyn Rees, the former Labour Home Secretary, urged his party's policy makers last night to put their spending plans to an independent audit to wreck the "current deceit" from ministers.

He was speaking to his Morley and South Leeds constituency association at the end of a week in which two Cabinet ministers, Mr Norman Fowler and Mr John MacGregor, released their own detailed costings of Labour's ambitious spending programme.

Mr MacGregor claimed that a Labour government would have to raise income tax from 29p to 53p in the pound, or value-added tax to 43 per cent, to pay for the extra £35,000 million promised to voters. But Mr Roy Hattersley, the Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer, called those "fantasy figures".

Mr Rees said the Conservative Party was preparing for the next general election. Labour must do the same after the annual conference next month.

"Above all, however, we must put our prepared policies to the electorate well in advance of the general election. Where expenditure is concerned we should put our policy to independent audit".

Everything that was happening in the House of Commons indicated that the Government was clearing the decks for a general election, Mr Rees said.



Mr John Wakeham, the Government Chief Whip, whose legs were badly crushed in the Brighton bombing, received a starting push from his wife Alison yesterday as he put in some training for a sponsored cycle ride around his Essex estate. It was his first time on a bicycle since the blast two years ago.

Protester in Stalker inquiry dies

Mr Norman Briggs, chairman of the Greater Manchester Police Authority since January, died yesterday.

Mr Briggs, who was involved in investigations into accusations against Mr John Stalker, the deputy chief constable of Greater Manchester, recently led a delegation to the Home Office demanding a quick end to the inquiry.

The inquiry had, of late, consumed much of his time and energy.

The report into allegations against Mr Stalker, who investigated an alleged "shoot-to-kill" police policy in Ulster, is expected to be completed in three weeks.

Mr Briggs, a Salford city councillor since 1971 and chairman of its finance committee, was a member of Greater Manchester Council from 1973 to 1977.

He was appointed to the Greater Manchester Police Authority in September 1985, four months later assuming the chairmanship, a post which gave him a high, although not necessarily welcome, public profile.

Peer loses battle for family estate

Lord Leigh, of Stoneleigh Abbey, Warwickshire, is being forced by rising costs to leave his 400-year family home.

It may be let for use as a leisure complex, hotel, country club or some other business to meet maintenance costs. The decision comes after a long restoration battle following a fire in 1960, and to meet taxes and death duties.

Lord Leigh, aged 50, the fifth baron, and his third wife, are expected to move next year to a smaller house in Warwickshire or Gloucestershire.

Mr Simon Gordon-Duff, the Stoneleigh Abbey administrator, said yesterday that a scheme to let two floors as luxury offices in 1983 had not been successful.

The abbey, with its 15 acres of gardens and 700 acres of grounds, was handed over to a preservation trust by Lord Leigh's father, who died in 1979. The part-Eliabethan, part-Georgian home, opened to the public in 1946, came into the family in 1561.

Farmers make £10m claim over Chernobyl

Sheep farmers are to send a £10 million claim for losses caused by the Chernobyl radiation disaster to Mr Michael Jopling, Minister for Agriculture, on Monday.

However, the farmers expect a hard fight. Mr Simon Jourjay, president of the National Farmers Union, predicted that it would be some time before there was a satisfactory settlement.

More than 1,500 English and Welsh farmers have been forbidden to sell lambs and breeding sheep because of high levels of radioactivity in parts of England and Wales.

Radiation levels in some Cumbrian fields are still well above normal, although well

Knock airport priest dies at Lourdes

A village priest who defied sceptics to turn a boggy plateau in the west of Ireland into an international airport will be flown home to be buried next week.

Monsignor James Horan, aged 74, the parish priest of Knock, Co Mayo, died of a heart attack in a hotel bedroom at Lourdes yesterday. He had flown from Knock on Wednesday as leader of group of Irish pilgrims.

Next Monday, less than a year after he saw his airport dream come true, his body will be flown in for burial in the parish.

He spent six years wrestling funds from central government and Irish exiles to give the



Mgr James Horan: his dream built Knock airport.

Science report

New alert over 'passive' smoking

Evidence that children who are exposed to cigarette smoke at home are at greater risk of severe respiratory illness has been produced by researchers in China.

Their findings add to the growing view among health experts that "passive" smoking is harmful.

The latest study, by epidemiologists at Shanghai Medical University, has shown a clear dose response between household exposure to cigarette smoke and the hospital admission rate for respiratory illness in infants under 18 months of age.

The study, published in the latest issue of the *British Medical Journal*, involved 1,058 infants, of whom a total of 764 were from families which included smokers. In most cases the father smoked, and in no case was the mother a smoker.

Of the group, 184 were admitted to hospital at least once during the first 18 months of life, 100 of them for respiratory illness, and 84 for other conditions. Of the 100 babies, 80 were from smoking families, and in 58 cases the family member, most often the father, smoked more than 10 cigarettes a day.

The relative risk of respiratory illness among the 58

Fewer students reduce pupil-teacher ratio

Pupil-teacher ratios differ widely between regions, but a lower number of students has brought the average number of pupils for each teacher down to 17.5, according to new statistics in the annual volume, *Regional Trends*.

The South-west had the highest pupil-teacher ratios for state primary and secondary schools, 23.6 and 16.9 respectively, but at 10.5 it also had the lowest ratio for non-maintained schools, which 9 per cent of its pupils attended.

Six per cent of all pupils went to non-maintained schools but that varied from 2 per cent in Wales to 9 per cent in the South-east and South-west, and 13 per cent in Northern Ireland.

Scotland had the smallest overall pupil-teacher ratio of 16.3. Nursery schools apart, it was consistently below the United Kingdom average.

The West Midlands was the only region with a higher average pupil-teacher ratio for nursery schools than Scotland: 25.7 as against 25.4 in Scotland, and 21.7 in the UK.

Average class sizes were higher than the pupil-teacher ratio, particularly in secondary schools. Greater London

Foreigners put financial faith in Ulster

Foreign-owned enterprises accounted for 36 per cent of net capital spending in manufacturing in Northern Ireland in 1985, government statistics in the newly published volume, *Regional Trends*, reveal.

The proportion was higher than any other region, compared with 32 per cent in the South-east, but only 9 per cent in Yorkshire and Humberside and the West Midlands.

Nationally just over a quarter of manufacturing gross value added (GVA) in 1983 came from units employing fewer than 100 people, and another quarter from units employing 1,000 or more.

GVA per employee varied widely by industry in 1983, from a UK average of £22,442 in chemicals to £7,686 in man-made fibres, textiles, leather, clothing and footwear.

Ulster came bottom for all industries except food, drink and tobacco. Its GVA was highest of all in the extraction and manufacture of metals.

The West Midlands was characterized by low investment per employee in all industries except vehicles and food, drink and tobacco in 1983.

Social Trends 21, 1986 (Stationery Office; £17.50).

South-west falls below average for jobless

Every region has shared the increased unemployment of recent years, but there are marked variations between regions and within them, according to new government figures.

The national average rose from 5.8 per cent in 1977 to 13.5 last year.

But while the South-east, East Anglia and the East Midlands have kept unemployment below that level, the South-west has moved from being far above average, with 6.25 per cent in 1977, to below average, with 12 per cent in 1985.

By contrast the West Midlands was badly affected by a rapid increase in unemployment between 1979 and 1983 and moved from below average (5.5 per cent) in 1977 to above (15.5 per cent) last year.

Unemployment also varies inside regions. So while the North has the worst unemployment in the mainland (19 per cent) and the South-east (9.9 per cent) the lowest, the Isle of Wight in the South-east (15 per cent) is worse off than Cumbria in the North (12.5 per cent).

In Scotland, the unemployment rate varies from 8.9 per cent in the Grampians region to 18.8 per cent in Strathclyde.

High unemployment regions tend to have high long-term unemployment, so that in October 1985 more than half the unemployed men in Northern Ireland, the West Midlands and the North-west had been out of work for a year, and over a third for more than two years. The comparable figures were around a quarter and under two-fifths in the South-east, South-west and East Anglia.

The chances of finding work were highest, and increasing slightly, in East Anglia and the South-west, where in 1985, 40 per cent or more of unemployed men were finding jobs, but slimmest in the West Midlands, where the percentage was still under 30.

The risks of becoming unemployed were worst in the North and North-west.

Figures for government training schemes and special employment measures suggest that they have most lasting effect where they are least needed, as in London and the South-east, where more participants are still in work eight months after leaving the programme.

Father behaved 'like madman' in bedroom attack on daughter

By Trudi McIntosh

A Manchester businessman acted like a Jack Nicholson character in the film *The Shining* when he terrorized his daughter, the General Medical Council's disciplinary committee heard yesterday.

Miss Anne Waterson, aged 22, said: "He suddenly snapped. I ran upstairs to the bedroom and wedged a stool against the door." She said that her father, Mr George Waterson, aged 49, smashed a hole in the door, tore away all the wood splinters and burst into the room.

"He looked like a complete madman. He reminded me of Jack Nicholson in *The Shining*," she said.

She managed to escape from their family home in Hale, near Altrincham, Cheshire, and run to the nearest telephone box to call her mother for help. The incident took place only weeks before her eighteenth birthday.

Miss Waterson, a nurse, also claimed her father had made "sexual insinuations" to her while they were alone at home.

She said the behaviour of her father drastically deteriorated from 1978 onwards after he started receiving treatment from a hypnolist, Dr Joseph Jaffe in Manchester.

Dr Jaffe, aged 60, of Prest-

wich, Manchester, is alleged to have turned Mr Waterson into a "zombie" during a five-year course of hypnosis and injections with an unknown mixture of drugs he called "Jaffe Juice".

Dr Jaffe faces five charges of serious professional misconduct between May 1978 and about March 1983.

Mr Michael Waterson, aged 19, a student, told the hearing that by 1981 he became very frightened of his father and his changed behaviour.

"He looked wild, ten to fifteen years older. His hair was wild, his eyes were wild, he had sunken cheeks and looked jaundiced," he said.

He added that they were a very close family but gradually they were torn apart.

He described how his father used to return home after he had received treatment from Dr Jaffe.

"He seemed to be in something like a trance."

His brother, Mr Peter Waterson, aged 17, said his father considered Dr Jaffe to be "a god".

"He made us look at photographs of Dr Jaffe around the house and to listen to radio programmes he was on." He said that his father wanted the family to believe that the

doctor was the best person in the world.

He recalled one occasion when his father returned home and he asked him if he had been to see Dr Jaffe.

"He exploded and showed me his forearm. It was covered with puncture marks," he said.

His father had replied: "Yes of course I have been," and had then gone to a back room and burst into tears.

Mr Arthur Walker, retired, of West Hyde, Manchester, said he used to do various odd jobs for Dr Jaffe at his consulting rooms. His wife was a housekeeper on the premises.

Dr Jaffe would ask him to check on Mr Waterson in the treatment room. He said Mr Waterson would be sitting in a big chair.

Mr Walker said: "He looked rough, as if he had had a skinful of drink. His eyes looked as if he couldn't focus."

He said that he was concerned about Mr Waterson's condition and whether he could drive home safely. But he said he never told Dr Jaffe that he was worried about the patient's state.

The hearing was adjourned until November 24.



Members of the Bolshoi Ballet, Galina Chernomova, Maria Zakhova, Marina Kotova, Lidiya Chashay, Violetta Voronina and Elena Akhmatova, on an open-top sightseeing bus outside the Houses of Parliament yesterday. The Moscow company is appearing at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, until August 9 (Photograph: Ros Drinkwater).

Action to beat West End touts

By Our Arts Correspondent

Legislation is planned to crack down on agencies which are charging up to five times the face value of West End theatre tickets.

The Department of Trade and Industry said yesterday that it was drafting a wide-ranging Bill for the next parliamentary session which would give statutory backing to a new code of practice on misleading advertising and prices.

The proposed Consumer Goods and Services Bill would contain a specific clause covering theatre tickets, to ensure that purchasers were aware of their value and of agency commission charges.

Westminster City Council recently joined a mounting campaign by theatre managers against the practices of some agencies.

The council reported this week that only two out of nine agencies investigated by its officers were displaying book-ings fees.

Mr Peter Hartley, chairman of the environment committee, said: "This kind of extortionate mark-up is damaging the reputation of the West End. It is almost legitimizing touting. We are urging the Government to introduce tougher laws as a matter of urgency."

The Society of West End Theatre, representing 49 establishments, said that it was aware of instances in which customers had been charged £25 for a ticket with a box office value of £6.

The profits were allowing the agencies to extend their activities by buying out reputable dealers in hotel lobbies, and by setting up alongside currency exchange bureaux.

The campaign has been supported by Mr Michael Marshall, Conservative MP for Arundel, who told the Commons recently that the lack of control was "bad for theatre, bad for our reputation as a tourist centre, and bad for broadening habits of theatre-going among our own population."

The Keith Prowse agency, established in 1780, also welcomed the government action but said that it did not go far enough.

Mr Paul Burns, managing director, said: "London has become the ticket tout capital of the world. We would like to see legislation to license agents, in the same way that the authorities in New York stipulate what our subsidiary there can charge."

Norrington table Top honours for St John's

By Alan Hamilton

St John's College has retained its seemingly unassailable position for the fourth successive year at the head of Oxford University's annual league table based on the results of final honours examinations.

The college has scored the highest number of first-class honours degrees, as well as coming top for the percentage points table for academic achievement.

In this year's final examination results, St John's undergraduates were awarded a total of 35 first-class honours degrees, eight ahead of its nearest rival, University College.

The only tiny stain on St John's otherwise glittering academic prize is that it has dropped to third place, after Merton and Lincoln, in the table in which colleges are ranked in order of the percentage of firsts plus seconds.

Oxford dons regularly profess to take no notice of the annual Norrington Table, on the ground that examination results are only one factor among many in a college's overall performance.

Nevertheless, school teachers, employers, and most of all applicants for admission to the university, traditionally take a lively interest in it.

This year's table is computed in a slightly different way. For the first time, it differentiates between upper and lower second class honours degrees.

Under the new system, five points are awarded for a first class degree, three for an upper second, two for a lower second, and one for a third.

Whether because of the new scoring system or because of genuine changes of fortune, several colleges have altered their placings.

At the top, Merton has moved from sixth to second, and Corpus Christi from fifth to third. Lincoln has shot from seventeenth to fifth, Hertford has gone from twelfth to eighth, Christ Church from

BBC wins royal wedding battle

Far more viewers watched the wedding of the Duke and Duchess of York on BBC than on ITV.

Figures from the British Audience Research Bureau today show that 14.4 million watched BBC's live coverage of the carriage procession to Westminster Abbey on July 23.

The marriage service itself was seen by 14.2 million BBC viewers compared with seven million who watched independent television.

No part of the independent coverage's live coverage attracted enough viewers to register in the commercial network's top 10 for the week.

Health talks

Lady Trumpington, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Health and Social Security, will chair a public meeting in Stonehouse, Gloucestershire next week in response to calls for government action over a meningitis outbreak which has affected a hundred people in the past five years.

Polly's £5,000

A parrot named Polly was left £5,000 yesterday in the will of Mrs Hilda Wilson, of Highbury, North Yorkshire, who died last June, aged 73. The bird is in the care of her neighbours.

Dearer wine

Wine merchants in the south of England charge up to £1 a bottle more for well-known wines than their counterparts in the north, according to the Consumers' Association magazine *Which?* Wine Monthly.

£1.6m bail bid

John Palmer, the jeweller facing a conspiracy charge in connection with the £26-million Brinks-Mat bullion raid at Heathrow in 1983, offered a bail of £1.6 million in a bail request yesterday. Mr Palmer, aged 36, of Lansdown, near Bath, was remanded in custody by Hertsford Road magistrates.

Lock inquiry

An inquiry into complaints against the police by Mr Lawrence Lock, husband of the woman found murdered near a railway line, in Hertfordshire, is to be led by Mr David Scott, assistant chief constable of Sussex.

Bag a moor

Two grouse moors, Snailsea in South Yorkshire and Woodhead near Glossop, in North Derbyshire, were yesterday offered for sale days before the grouse shooting season starts on the Glorious Twelfth. Offers of around £150,000 and £125,000 respectively are sought.

Tin mine goes

The Pendarves tin mine near Camborne, Cornwall, closed yesterday. The mine was one of three in the county owned by Rio Tinto (Zinc) which has applied to the Government for a grant of more than £15 million. The 40 workers have been offered other jobs.

Gas inquiry

Derbyshire County Council is to hold a public inquiry into a methane gas explosion which killed a bus driver at Loscoe last March. The environment department has refused to sanction one.

Dockyard bids

The Ministry of Defence announced yesterday that it has received three bids for a contract to manage the royal dockyard at Rosyth on the Firth of Forth.

Dolphin call

The Windsor Safari Park, Berkshire, was called in yesterday to try to save the life of a young bottlenose dolphin, washed up on the beach at Weymouth, Dorset, on Thursday.

Threat to Putnam film study

By Gavin Bell

A project by Mr David Putnam, the film director, to introduce the cinema to schools may have to be abandoned because of lack of government support.

The scheme, under which pupils would attend special screenings of important films as part of their studies, attracted financial backing from the film industry and preparations were well advanced for its launch next month.

However, the Department of Trade and Industry, which had been asked to provide £35,000, said yesterday that it was unable to do so.

Mr Ian Wall, a film educationist, who has been co-ordinating the project, said that it was likely to collapse unless another sponsor was found quickly.

"The DTI decision is very disappointing, in view of the way the industry itself rallied round. But because we think the scheme is so valuable, we are not going to give up hope yet," he said.

An initial grant of £35,000 from the British Film and Television Producers Association had enabled the organizers to distribute 12 film study guides, to 2,500 schools throughout Britain.

The guides, written by teachers, were to be used in conjunction with visits to local cinemas at reduced prices. They included films such as *Lady Jane* and *Revolution* for history studies, *Passage to India* for English literature, and *Defence of the Realm* for political and social studies.

A further £35,000 had been pledged by film distributors towards the project's budget of £105,000. A spokesman for the department, which provided £325,000 for British Film Year, said that funds for this year were fully committed.

Video violence 'damages young'

Children aged as young as eight were having their minds damaged by exposure to videos portraying brutal sex and violence, a teachers' conference was told yesterday.

Miss See McCaffrey, an English teacher of Thurrock, Essex, told delegates to the Professional Association of Teachers conference that many children aged between 11 and 14 were now indulging in essays "ghastly stories of victims being decapitated or mutilated."

"It is the young minds of our children which are suffering. We must inform parents of the dangers to their children of exposure to such horrific material," she said.

The Manchester conference unanimously passed a motion deploring "the influence on children of newspapers, television and videos giving prominence to sex and violence."

'D' day warning of car sales chaos

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Hours after the first 'D' registered cars appeared on the streets yesterday, motor organizations gave a warning that a change in the vehicle year "identifier", from August to October, would "throw the used car market into chaos".

The British Vehicle Rental and Leasing Association, whose members buy more than a quarter of all new cars, said if the switch goes ahead next year, an overwhelming number of used cars would be part exchanged for new ones during the worst three months of the year.

As a result of that "glut", used prices would fall by as much as £1,300 for an executive saloon, £650 for a medium family car, £400 for a small family car and £270 for a super Mini.

In a letter to the Secretary of State for Transport, calling for an urgent meeting, the association says: "The great majority of the industry believes that the proposed change should be abandoned immediately."

Nearly two months ago, the Department of Transport said it would reconsider if the trade came up with a consensus view.

Last night the manufacturers said: "We shall be meeting the agents on August 26."

Churches give way in city road race battle

By Craig Seton

Sunday services are to be cancelled at some churches in Birmingham when the city stages Monaco-style motor racing for the first time on public roads in Britain later this month.

Threats of legal action, to ensure that services could go ahead, receded yesterday, after church leaders accepted that it was too late to reschedule the August Bank holiday Super Prix. The race features Formula 3000 racing cars travelling at speeds of up to 180 mph.

The churches are on, or near, the 4.4 mile route of the two-day event, close to the city centre. One Unitarian church has cancelled its Sunday services for the first time in 300 years because of expected traffic congestion.

Other churches are holding morning services earlier than usual and cancelling later services. Worshippers will be given passes to allow them into enclosures and will be permitted to watch practices without paying.

Yesterday church leaders met officials of the city council, which has spent about £1.5 million on the event. Mr Roland Senter, spokesman for the churches, said: "We did not want racing cancelled, but did want certain periods when our congregations could get to services."

Mr John Charlton, the chairman of the road race committee, said that next year gaps would be arranged to allow services to go ahead.

Eight miles of steel barriers and steel mesh fencing have been put up along the route and organizers are hoping to attract more than 150,000 visitors.

Parents fear for missing daughter

The parents of a Leicester schoolgirl who disappeared close to the place where another teenager was murdered three years ago said yesterday that they feared she had been abducted.

Dawn Ashworth, aged 15, was last seen leaving the home of her best friend, Sharon Clarke, in the village of Enderby, on Thursday afternoon.

Her one-and-a-half mile walk home could have taken her along the edge of an area known as the "black pad" where Lynda Mann, also aged 15, was sexually assaulted and strangled. Her murderer was never caught. Both girls were pupils of Lutterworth Grammar School.

Dawn's father, Mr Robin Ashworth, who was routinely questioned by the police during their investigation into Lynda's murder, said: "We constantly warned her to be careful because there was a killer on the loose."

Mr Ashworth, a scientific officer with British Gas, comforted his wife Barbara, who said: "Dawn will be absolutely panic-stricken by now if she is being held against her will."



Dawn Ashworth: vanished while walking home.

Family back Gillick over campaign

Mrs Victoria Gillick is to carry on campaigning against doctors being allowed to prescribe birth control pills for girls under 16 without parents' consent.

Yesterday her daughter Beattie, aged 16, who was recently photographed topless on a Greek beach, was reunited with her parents at their home in Wisbech, Cambridgeshire.

She said she was 100 per cent behind her mother's campaign. "If I had daughters then I would take the same line as my mother," she said.

Mrs Gillick had consulted her six older children over whether to abandon her crusade.

Beattie who is 17 on August 11, was joined by Ben, aged 18, Hannah, aged 15, twins Theo and Jim, aged 14, and Jessie, aged 12, to discuss whether the pressure on the family was too much to bear after publicity over the pictures of Beattie topless with her Greek boyfriend on a holiday beach.

Mrs Gillick said: "We came to the conclusion that we would keep the family as much out of the press as possible, but I would carry on campaigning." She would be launching a group called Inform to make the public aware of her campaign.

Beattie denied there was any rift with her mother.

Asked why did went topless, she said: "In Greece it's the norm."

Actually the thing that they didn't say in the papers was that I totally agree with my mother. I am in favour of her opposition to the pill for under age girls."

Beattie was scathing because she said a photographer hid in rocks to get a picture.

Mrs Gillick, who has 10 children, said: "Beattie has been one of my strongest supporters." Asked about a report of endless family disputes, she said: "The endless rows are the sort of endless rows that you have with all teenage girls."

"I just think it's so unfair for Beattie to be put in this light when she had a lovely holiday, the best any parent could want for their daughter, and it was wrecked, absolutely wrecked."

Art viewers get chance to detect fakes

Arts connoisseurs will have a rare opportunity to test their skill in detecting forgeries at the clockwork next Friday, when Yorkshire Television begins Britain's first all-night programme for an experimental three-month period (Gavin Bell writes).

The service, available only to viewers in the YTV transmission area, will present pop videos, interviews and reviews.

The programme, produced in London by the Music Box company, is already broadcast by satellite to 4.5 million households in 11 European countries.

Several other independent television companies, including Anglia TV, are understood to be considering plans for a similar overnight service.

All-night TV for Yorkshire rock fans

Popular music fans will be able to "rock around the clock" from midnight next Friday, when Yorkshire Television begins Britain's first all-night programme for an experimental three-month period (Gavin Bell writes).

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Soccer player jailed for hitting referee

A football player was jailed for 28 days yesterday for assaulting the referee during a match.

Keith Lethby, aged 26, a taxi driver, of Twitten Way, Worthing, West Sussex, punched the referee, Mr Russel Cummings, twice in the face and, when he lay unconscious on the ground, jumped on his back. Chichester Crown Court was told.

Lethby was playing for a working men's club against the Royal British Legion side at Worthing and lost his temper when a free kick was awarded against his team.

He pleaded guilty to causing the referee actual bodily harm and was also ordered to pay him £400 compensation.

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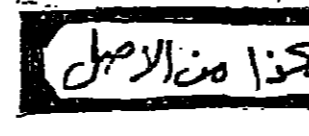
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COMMENTARY



Geoffrey Smith

The diplomatic sensitivity with which Mrs Thatcher plays her hand may well be the critical factor at the Commonwealth mini-summit.

Priority to get everyone in line

There is some overlap in the measures under consideration by the Commonwealth, the European Community and the United States.

So the British Government sees the first priority as being to get the international community in line.

In substance, that approach is consistent with Sir Geoffrey's publicly declared belief that further measures would be required if his mission to South Africa were unsuccessful.

But he would still have preferred the British approach to be more specific and less flexible.

Will Mrs Thatcher carry conviction on that score? So much will depend on how she presents the Government's position.

Possible Thatcher counter-punch

But it could so easily be represented as just one more delaying device, especially if Mrs Thatcher were to dwell too much on the need to encourage President Botha to take further conciliatory measures in the meantime.

I doubt if she will go into tomorrow's meeting, spilling for a fight. But she is one of nature's counter-punchers.

No method of consequence for bringing the international community into line on South Africa has been ruled out by the British Government.

A number of her colleagues did not take it as a happy omen that the briefings given after Thursday's Cabinet, presumably by her press secretary, were not consistent with what they believed they had decided in Cabinet.

South African crisis India plans to take sanctions call to full Commonwealth

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Indian officials declared yesterday that if there was no consensus at the Commonwealth mini-summit in London beginning tomorrow an emergency meeting of all 49 heads of government would be summoned to take further action.

The officials indicated that Delhi would be prepared to host such a meeting, and that it could take place within a month or six weeks.

Mr Gandhi said on the BBC World Service last night that he expected, because the situation in South Africa had worsened since the Nassau summit, that a more comprehensive list of sanctions than those agreed then would be drawn up.

Mr Gandhi told the BBC that there was no desire to break up the Commonwealth, but his officials said the rest of the Commonwealth would be prepared to act without Britain if necessary.

Thanks, however, to Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour Party leader, India is unlikely to leave the Commonwealth.

Unions ask Queen to intervene

By Mark Ellis

The Queen is being urged by Commonwealth trades union leaders to intervene on the question of Britain's imposing sanctions against South Africa with a personal appeal to the Prime Minister.

Warning of the danger of the break-up of the Commonwealth, the union leaders say that Mrs Thatcher should be advised against opposing sanctions.

The message was revealed after a special meeting of the steering committee of the Commonwealth Trade Union Council, which preceded tomorrow's mini-summit.

Mrs Shirley Carr, chairman of the Council, said: "As head of the Commonwealth, the Queen should show that Mrs Thatcher is not head of the Commonwealth and should not be dictating to Commonwealth Prime Ministers."

Mrs Thatcher's refusal to meet the Commonwealth Trade Union Council was greeted with astonishment and brought fierce condemnation of her view that sanctions would harm the black people of South Africa.

Yesterday a CTUC letter to Mrs Thatcher demanding "effective and wide-ranging economic sanctions was delivered to Downing Street. It said: "We are frankly astonished and deeply disappointed that you are not available to discuss these matters with us."

Thatcher under fire again

From Jan Raath, Harare

The leaders of Zambia and Zimbabwe are expected to launch their most vigorous assault yet against Mrs Thatcher's reluctance over the issue of sanctions against South Africa at the Commonwealth mini-summit tomorrow.

President Kaunda of Zambia, who chairs the Commonwealth committee to make recommendations on the Eminent Persons Group report, and Mr Robert Mugabe, the Zimbabwe Prime Minister, will arrive today strengthened in their public demands for a package of total sanctions.

The Organization of African Unity's summit this week, not unexpectedly, endorsed their stand. The failure of the South African mission of Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, has also added to their resolve.

The fact that recommendations coming out of the Marlborough House mini-summit will still be subject to ratification by the entire Commonwealth is also seen to give room for Mr Mugabe and Dr



Three dolls, dressed as Soviet officers, (above) after they were used by Herr Heinz Braum (left) in his escape to West Berlin.



Berliner claims 'dummy' run escape

West Berlin - An East German said to have escaped to West Berlin by car after disguising himself and three shop dummies as a Soviet Army man claimed yesterday that the feat was his third East-West crossing in less than six weeks.

Herr Heinz Braum, aged 48, told of his commercially-organized flight at a press conference in West Berlin called by the August 13 Working Group, an organization which helps East Germans who have escaped.

His own escape, on Wednesday evening, is said to have been masterminded by Herr Wolf Quasner, a veteran "yellow pinpermet" who has helped about 1,000 East Germans to flee to the west in the last 25 years.

Herr Braum, dressed in the uniform of a Red Army lance-corporal, claimed he drove a Lada

estate car repainted in military olive green through four checkpoints to West Berlin.

The guards were said to have been fooled completely by a dummy lieutenant-colonel next to him, and two "lieutenants" on the back seat. East German guards made only nominal checks of the car.

Herr Braum, a former West German who moved to East Germany when he was 21, said that he had decided to escape because he was disenchanted with the communist regime.

Official sources yesterday would not confirm his story. The west side of the Invalidenstrasse crossing is in the British sector, but a British military spokesman said: "We know nothing about the escape." US and French spokesmen gave similar replies, and the West Berlin city authorities said: "Nothing known."

Improving relations on two Middle East fronts

Bush sees heights for himself

Aqaba, Jordan (Reuters) - The US Vice-President, Mr George Bush, arrived in Aqaba yesterday for talks with King Hussein of Jordan after a look at the Israeli-Jordanian border.

"This reinforces one's convictions about the need for peace in the area," he told reporters after a military briefing at Jordan's Um Qais military observation post just 2 1/2 miles from the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights.

Mr Bush said the visit to Um Qais, near the meeting point of the Israeli, Syrian, and Jordanian borders, "brings home the proximity and danger of the area, given the closeness of the forces."

At the same time, he said Congress erred in opposing a military aid request for Jordan that was bitterly opposed by Israel. The Reagan Administration never formally submitted the request, because it faced certain defeat in Congress.

"Congress was wrong on that, the Administration was right in its position," he said when asked if the view from Um Qais made a good case for filling Jordan's arms needs.

Israeli observation posts on the Golan Heights, seized from Syria in the 1967 war, are clearly visible from Um Qais.

The military briefing included some of the details of the Israeli tactics that drove Syria from the Golan Heights and emphasized their military importance.

Mr Bush said he was struck by the contrast between the military realities and the peacefulness of the valley.

French anger grows at police shooting

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The death of a young motorcyclist, shot in the back by a policeman on Thursday night, has inflamed growing public anger over strong-arm tactics adopted by French security forces.

"The police claim that the dead man, M William Normand, aged 24, had snatched a woman's handbag and was being pursued when a bullet fired by a policeman hit in the back."

Foreign currency and jewels were found in his pockets, police said, adding that he was well known to the police for street theft. But his family and neighbours insist he had never had anything to do with the police.

He was an affable, honest young man, they said, who enjoyed his work as a dental technician, and was about to marry his Dutch fiancée. They can only assume that it was a

Property and exit visas to figure in Soviet-Israeli talks

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

Israeli and Soviet officials are to meet in Europe in "the very near future" to discuss consular matters, the Israeli Foreign Ministry confirmed yesterday.

The meeting is understood to concern the ownership of property in Jerusalem.

Since diplomatic ties were broken after the Six-Day War in 1967, the White Russian community has taken over the extensive church property which was acquired in the days of the Tsar.

The Soviet request for talks will probably centre on this question.

It is possible that other points will be raised, with Israel particularly anxious to press for exit visas for the many Soviet Jews who have applied to leave Russia.

But only this week the deputy chairman of the Soviet Committee for European Security and Co-operation, Mr Yevgeny Silin, told a press conference that Russia had no reason to maintain the high levels of emigration of the 1970s, when up to 50,000 a year were allowed to leave.

Last month Moscow granted 55 visas to Jews, bringing to 455 the number allowed to leave the country this year.

Israeli Foreign Ministry officials last month denied a report that there would be a meeting soon to discuss establishing consulates in each country.

Jenco has talks with Reagan

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

The Rev Lawrence Jenco, the US Roman Catholic priest freed after nearly 19 months of captivity in Lebanon, arrived in Washington yesterday and immediately went to the White House for a private meeting with President Reagan.

In a brief statement to reporters, he said he was conveying a confidential message from his captors to President Reagan.

He appealed to his captors to release the three other US citizens they are still holding. The best way they could do this would be to accept the invitation of Mr Terry Waite, special representative of the Archbishop of Canterbury, to continue the "dialogue aimed at resolving the situation."

President Reagan said Father Jenco being here was an answer to a great many prayers by "all of us." Asked whether he was optimistic, the President said: "I am always optimistic. I still have faith in prayer. This is evidence of it."

Waite's offer, Mr Waite said yesterday that he is willing to return to the Middle East at any time to try to negotiate freedom for other Western hostages held in Lebanon. (Clifford Longley writes).

Sudan peace talks deadlock

Addis Ababa (AFP) - A first meeting between the Prime Minister of Sudan, Mr Sadiq el-Mahdi, and Colonel John Garang, leader of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), resulted only in an agreement that they should continue contacts, both sides said at separate press conferences here yesterday.

Colonel Garang said the two sides were not yet on the same wavelength, and warned that the airport at Juba was not safe for any air traffic.

He denied that his movement was intransigent about peace efforts, and emphasized that it was fighting for a national democratic revolution for the whole country, not just the south.

Wheat offer by US to Russians

Washington (Reuters) - The United States is offering the Soviet Union about four million metric tonnes of wheat at current world market prices.

Mr Richard Lyng, the Agriculture Secretary, said. Mr Lyng said the US Government would subsidize the sales to make US prices competitive.

Australia, Canada and Argentina have protested to the White House that they would be harmed by subsidized US wheat sales to Moscow.

Looting on blaze liner

Miami (UPI) - Looters took cash and jewellery as tourists fled from smoke-filled cabins on the burning cruise ship Emerald Seas, a cruise line spokesman said.

Ms Laura Bennett of Eastern Cruise Lines, said authorities were investigating "a stack of theft reports", and blamed the looting on passengers, adding that crew members adhered to an "honour system".

Zambia picks new envoys

Lusaka (Reuters) - Zambia has named new envoys to Britain, the United Nations and other posts, and said it is closing its embassies in Portugal and Spain to cut costs.

The new High Commissioner to London is Mr Wilfred Phiri, previously President Kaunda's special assistant for political affairs.

Press curb

Singapore (Reuters) - The Singapore Parliament approved a Bill giving the Government powers to restrict the sales of foreign publications which are regarded as interfering in local politics.

Ceiling up

Paris - The ceiling on foreign ownership in newly-privatized French companies has been raised from 15 to 20 per cent in the amended version of the Government's privatization Bill.

Death crash

Tel Aviv (AP) - Nine teenagers and a driver returning from summer camp were killed when their van collided head-on with a truck near Afula, 50 miles north-east of here, police said.

Minnelli will

Los Angeles (Reuters) - The film director Vincente Minnelli left the bulk of his estate, including his \$1 million Beverly Hills home, to his daughter Liza Minnelli, according to his will filed in court.

Venice rises

Venice (Reuters) - Venice has stopped sinking and has risen by about 4in since 1970, according to an official geological survey.

Jail for bribes

Moscow (Reuters) - Former Georgian Culture Minister Taimuraz Badurashvili has been jailed for 15 years for taking bribes, according to the latest edition of the Soviet republic's newspaper to reach Moscow.

Guard dies

Madrid (AP) - A civil guardman has died from wounds suffered in a car bomb attack by Basque terrorists here last month, bringing the death toll to 11, a hospital spokesman said.

Lorry protest

Chamonix (Reuters) - French lorry drivers demanding international recognition for their union and an end to diesel fuel tax blocked access to the Mont Blanc tunnel between France and Italy.

Bus plunge

Delhi (Reuters) - A bus carrying Hindu pilgrims seeking divine protection against calamities plunged into a ravine in north India, killing 30 people and injuring 12, the Press Trust of India reported.

Tycoon bailed

Madrid (Reuters) - Former Spanish business tycoon Jose Maria Ruiz Mateos, awaiting trial on charges of accounting fraud, has been released from jail on bail of \$2 million, his lawyer said.

Test talks

Geneva - Six days of talks on nuclear testing between American and Soviet experts will be followed by further meetings early next month, a US communiqué said.

Politics ban

Lagos (AFP) - Nigeria's military authorities have banned former civilian president Shehu Shagari and his deputy Alex Ekwueme from seeking elective office or participating in politics for life, an official statement said here.

burn keep smoke high sun

EEC's burning issues to keep smouldering through summer break

From Richard Owen, Brussels

Even though Sir Geoffrey Howe's "mission impossible" to South Africa has dominated the first months of Britain's presidency of the EEC Council of Ministers, British Common Market policy has made a modestly successful beginning in other areas, notably in quietly resolving the thorny EEC budget issue.

But as EEC bureaucrats cleared their desks this week for the summer break and the organization's headquarters took on a deserted air, officials gave notice that a full agenda of unresolved issues would be waiting for British ministers when business resumed in September.

In addition to South Africa, questions likely to produce a stormy final four months of the British presidency — the third time Britain has taken the chair since it joined the Community in 1973 — include European air fares, relations with Turkey, the continuing trade war with the US and heads-of-state left over from the temporary budget solution achieved in July.

"At this rate Mrs Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey could well be handing over the presidency to Belgium in December with some relief," one European diplomat commented as the summer exodus began.

Britain's attempts to reform the Common Agricultural Policy have yet to make an impact, and have been aggravated by the growth of the better mountain this summer to a record 1.3 million tonnes, despite the imposition of dairy quotas two years ago, as well as recent sales of cheap butter.

British officials point to the achievement of Mr Peter Brooke, Minister of State at the Treasury and current President of the Budget Com-

mission, in engineering agreement on the disputed 1986 budget early in July.

But the agreed budget uses up available EEC cash and has exhausted all revenues derived from the 1.4 per cent ceiling on VAT contributions to EEC coffers. If pressures for further farm spending continue and the American dollar continues to fall, the British presidency will be faced with a breach of the 1.4 per cent ceiling, seriously endangering the principal of budget discipline so dear to the heart of Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Britain's hopes of using its presidency to create jobs and encourage enterprise has received a twin boost from the Commission, which in July endorsed calls for greater labour market flexibility and announced increased EEC aid to small and medium-sized businesses.

A commission survey has found that job sharing, simpler employment procedures and flexible working hours would add up to 6 per cent to the European labour force, thus reducing unemployment.

The Commission has also put forward a plan for relieving small businesses of some VAT payments and excessive paperwork.

But officials warn that labour market deregulation would take years to achieve, adding that proposed aid to small firms of £20 million is relatively modest and is in any case likely to be cut because of excessive agricultural and regional spending.

On the foreign front Mr Willy de Clercq, the Commissioner for External Affairs, has sought to spare Sir Geoffrey an additional headache by attempting to negotiate a truce

in the US-EEC trade war over pasta and citrus fruits to match the truce achieved early in July over American maize exports to Europe.

These and other US-EEC tensions seem bound to spill over to the new round of Gatt (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) which opens in September in Uruguay, and which is already likely to be marred by disagreements over farm subsidies.

September also sees a special conference on the renewal of the EEC's association agreement with Turkey, a move which is vehemently opposed by Greece.

As if this was not enough, Mr John Moore, the Transport Minister, will also have to deal with the consequences of the failure of EEC Transport Ministers to agree on liberalization of air fares and routes in Europe under the Dutch presidency in the first half of the year.

"We can only hope British ministers will come back refreshed from the beaches," one official remarked. But even at the seaside there is no escape from the long arm of the EEC.

An EEC directive on minimum standards for bathing beaches is now in force, and although Mr William Waldegrave, the Environment Minister, claimed recently that about half of Britain's beaches would probably meet EEC requirements in the next few years, Commission officials will be taking a close look at those which remain polluted by EEC standards.

Commission officials are not impressed by the House of Lords objections this week to an allegedly "ill-conceived" EEC plan for reducing waste discharged into European waters by half.

Crowds scatter as plane crashes on city centre



Rush hour crowds in Mexico City scattered in panic yesterday when a light plane crashed into one of the main thoroughfares, left miraculously killing no one but injuring at least 28.

Witnesses said the injured included all four people in the Cessna 310-2, drivers and passengers of eight cars wrecked by the falling plane, and several pedestrians.

Officials at the scene said the pilot appeared to have tried to land on Lázaro Cárdenas, a main street, after his engine failed.

Lunchtime passers-by panicked as the plane crashed, scattering wreckage over a wide area.

It bounced off several parked cars, flattening four of them, before exploding in flames.

The plane was due to land at Mexico City's Benito Juárez International Airport a few miles east of the crash site after a flight from the Pacific resort of Puerto Vallarta.

The central location of the city's airport, close to the Justice Ministry and post office headquarters, has led to protests from airlines who say it is dangerous, but the authorities have consistently refused to move it.

Gorbachov gets tough with local officials

Moscow (Reuter) — Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, has delivered a critical lecture to Communist Party officials, saying his programme of economic revitalization amounts to a revolution and will brook no hindrance.

Mr Gorbachov, now back in Moscow, was shown on state television last night speaking earlier in the day in the industrial city of Khabarovsk on the last leg of his tour of the Soviet Far East.

The officials were shown taking copious notes as Mr Gorbachov criticized industrial and agricultural performance and the provision of social facilities in their region as well as the sometimes suffocating effect of Communist Party organization on local initiative.

He said the programme of economic and social perestroika (re-organization), which he introduced on taking power last year, amounted to a revolution and his meet-the-people tour of the Far East had proved that ordinary citizens backed it fully.

Some people still worked along old lines while mouthing agreement with the new values. "They have dug themselves out in the trenches. We will leave them there and go forward," he said.

Echoing themes from his speech this week in Vladivostok, where he urged rapid development of the Far East, he said local farmers were taking ever bigger state subsidies instead of moving towards food self-sufficiency and industry was showing decreasing returns on capital investment.

Some factory managers thought consumers without choice would buy any old goods but such bosses, turning out shoddy products year after year, should lose their jobs, he said.

He also said he had no respect for officials, though competent in other areas, who neglected social needs such as housing. Services in the Far East were two to three times poorer than in the country as a whole and this caused the region's main problem — lack of stable population, he said.

Mr Gorbachov said his visit had convinced him of the importance of local autonomy, measures to introduce which were announced by the Government this week.

Some of the responsibilities of Gosplan, the state planning committee, would be transferred to the regions and factory councils would be set up to work alongside party and trade union committees, he said.

Craxi forms government to solve Rome political crisis

Rome (Reuter) — Signor Bettino Craxi, the Socialist leader, formally accepted a mandate yesterday to form Italy's 45th postwar government, ending a crisis which lasted more than a month.

Signor Craxi presented a list of new ministers to President Cossiga that showed eight changes to the five-party administration, also led by him, which resigned on June 27 after ruling for a postwar record of nearly three years.

The new Cabinet, which includes five new ministers, was being sworn in yesterday. Signor Craxi said after meeting President Cossiga that the new administration was "a good government" which he hoped would win the

confidence of both houses of Parliament within the next few days and recommence its work.

The root cause of the crisis was a bitter dispute between the Socialists and the dominant Christian Democrats over the leadership. The Liberals, Republicans and Social Democrats make up the rest of the coalition.

The agreement reached yesterday ensures Signor Craxi's place at the helm until March 1987, when he will return to full-time running of the Socialist Party. A Christian Democrat candidate will then take over the premiership until the end of the legislature in June 1988.

The resolution of the crisis was further delayed this week by wrangling between the five parties over changes to the Cabinet list.

Sources said Signor Craxi wanted substantial changes to strengthen the Government for the remainder of his term, while the Christian Democrats would have preferred to reap the political benefits of a reshuffle when their candidate took over.

But Signor Ciriaco de Mita, the Christian Democrat leader, said it had been the most difficult crisis of the Republic and one that the Italian public had failed to comprehend.

Asked who were the winners, and who the losers in the agreement, he said: "We are all beaten. It is the political system that has lost out."

Political sources said the government programme for the remaining 20 months of the legislature was much the same as that pursued by Signor Craxi's first administration.

But the document includes important proposals for the abolition of secret parliamentary votes on expenditure laws. Signor Craxi was forced to resign on June 27 when his Government lost a secret ballot on a finance Bill minutes after winning an open confidence vote.

Solidarity prisoners defiant

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Solidarity activists, tricking out of jail under a Polish Government amnesty, are re-forging links with union colleagues rather than uncorking champagne.

Mr Bogdan Lis, one of about 50 political prisoners who have already been freed, made swift contact with Mr Lech Walasa, chairman of the banned trade union. Mr Lis, a former leader of the Gdansk underground opposition, was jailed for discussing protest strikes against food price rises.

The terms of the amnesty free most middle ranked Solidarity organizers charged under broad "anti-state" clauses in article 282 of the penal code. But those charged with trying to overthrow the state by force — including Mr Zbigniew Bujak, the Warsaw Solidarity chief — are excluded from the amnesty.

Mr Walasa, Mr Lis and the steady flow of released prisoners must now try to calculate the Government's next moves. The police were particularly vigilant after the last major amnesty in 1984, seeking to block any opposition.

Now, many dissidents believe there will be a major trial, a final legal reckoning with those still in jail.

Ortega promotes his cause in US after veto 'victory'

From Zoriana Fysariwsky, New York

President Ortega of Nicaragua continued his tour of the United States yesterday to stir grassroots opposition to the Reagan policy of aiding the Contra rebels.

The Americans handed Nicaragua a diplomatic victory by vetoing a UN Security Council measure which would have forced US compliance with the ruling by the International Court of Justice on June 27 against further assistance to the Contras.

Although Nicaragua managed to portray the Americans as intransigent, the Sandinistas did not emerge from the debate unscathed.

Their avowed commitment to democratic pluralism dissolved under scrutiny and their bid to extract political advantage from the World Court decision was brought into question.

With some exceptions, Managua was able only to summon those countries with extreme anti-American viewpoints to rise to its defence. Almost all members of the Contadora group seeking to promote Central American detente were noticeably absent.

With Thailand and France, Britain — the only permanent member of the Security Council to accept the Court's compulsory jurisdiction — abstained during the vote, to give Nicaragua a relatively disappointing 11 votes in favour.

The British abstention was a combination of wanting to shield the US and wishing to highlight the impropriety of Nicaragua's returning to the Council to score propaganda points.

Sir John Thomson, the British representative, said that it was a misrepresentation to define it simply as a dispute between the US and Nicaragua as the Sandinista leadership had attempted to do.

He said that the antagonisms in the region were rooted in its social and economic inequalities. But he added, with an allusion to the Soviet Union and Cuba, that the situation had been exploited by outside countries which had little desire to "help restore genuine political stability in the troubled area".

Throughout the three-day debate, Nicaragua and the US exchanged harsh words, each accusing the other of lying and seeking dominance in the region.

Señor Ortega opened the debate by saying that the American decision to defy the World Court did not augur well for the future of international law.

He was expected to dwell on the illegality of the American role as benefactor to the Contras during stops in Denver and Chicago after touring New York with his message.

This was Nicaragua's 12th complaint to the Council since 1982. The contrast between the support it had then, when Western countries rallied behind it at the expense of the US, and the waning interest displayed by them during this week's debate, was striking.

Some factory managers thought consumers without choice would buy any old goods but such bosses, turning out shoddy products year after year, should lose their jobs, he said.

He also said he had no respect for officials, though competent in other areas, who neglected social needs such as housing. Services in the Far East were two to three times poorer than in the country as a whole and this caused the region's main problem — lack of stable population, he said.

Mr Gorbachov said his visit had convinced him of the importance of local autonomy, measures to introduce which were announced by the Government this week.

Some of the responsibilities of Gosplan, the state planning committee, would be transferred to the regions and factory councils would be set up to work alongside party and trade union committees, he said.

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Quakes show cracks in the California lifestyle

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles

When a Los Angeles television station recently offered its viewers a free Earthquake Survival Guide, it thought the response was good. Some 50,000 booklets went out in nine months.

Last month alone, however, the station dispatched 15,000 more, and it is sending out additional booklets at the rate of 250 a day.

What happened in the interim was a series of jolting earthquakes, more frequent than California has ever experienced, bringing in their wake more than 100 aftershocks.

All the shaking has turned the state's 25 million population, normally quite sanguine when it comes to earthquakes, into a jittery mass which jumps at every sonic boom, stuns in its tracks every time a neighbour's dog howls and stockpiles food, water and

medical supplies as if anticipating a global conflagration.

Life in California has always been lived on the edge. As we sit by our swimming pools, shaded by our palm trees, cooled by the gentle breezes from the Pacific, while the rest of the country sweaters in a drought, we understand deep in our Puritan hearts that one day we will have to pay the price for paradise.

That day, some of the experts now tell us, could be coming sooner than we think.

The latest cluster of earthquakes began on July 8, when a jolt registering six on the Richter scale hit the desert resort town of Palm Springs.

Within days it was followed by one measuring 5.3 centred in the Pacific off the beach community of Oceanside.

That in turn was followed by a series of tremors in the mountainous area near Bishop, culminating in one of 6.1

centred in the Chalfont valley. Damage was moderate and injuries mostly minor. None of the tremors, however, occurred on the notorious San Andreas Fault line, which runs through California from north of San Francisco almost to the US-Mexican border town of El Centro.

The entire state is crisscrossed by a crazy quilt of fault lines, but it is the San Andreas, the experts predict, which will send us "the big one", wreaking the kind of

havoc visited on Mexico City last autumn.

What seems to be disturbing the population here even more than the prospect of the earth beneath their feet going into spasms is the gradually dawning knowledge that the so-called experts do not seem to know any more about predicting earthquakes than the people to whom they are preaching.

Do these tremors portend another, more massive upheaval? Maybe, say the experts.

If so, where will it strike? Perhaps in the Sierras, maybe on the coast, maybe, who knows?

Does the cluster of earthquakes mean that the stress that has been building up on the San Andreas Fault line is being relieved and will forestall the coming of the mammoth earthquake the Cassandras are predicting? Not likely, say the scientists.

Kohl plea for Hess to be freed

Bonn (Reuter) — Chancellor Kohl of West Germany has written to the leaders of the US, France, Britain and the Soviet Union appealing for the release of Hitler's former deputy, Rudolf Hess.

The letter, sent on July 21, said Hess, now aged over 92, was recently taken to the British Military hospital in Berlin-Spandau for health reasons. "For this reason, I urgently appeal to you mercifully to release the prisoner into the bosom of his family."

Hess, who has spent nearly four decades in Berlin's Spandau prison, was taken to hospital on July 8 to be treated for circulation problems. He was returned to the jail, where he is the only prisoner, six days later.

Herr Kohl said Hess was an old and sick man whose life was near an end.

In view of this, and the fact that his sentence had long outlasted any reasonable punishment requirement, he should no longer be refused a pardon on humanitarian grounds.

20,000 protest at Bolivia cocaine raids

La Paz (Reuter) — More than 20,000 Bolivian peasants have protested against the use of 170 United States troops in a drive to stamp out the cocaine trade, say labour leaders.

The peasants, who grow coca leaves, the raw material for cocaine, converged on the city of Cochabamba and filled the main square to hear speakers condemn what they branded "the US military intervention".

One labour leader urged the crowd to support a demand by left-wing unions to the Government for the expulsion of the troops.

The US soldiers, backed by six Black Hawk helicopters, are supporting a police sweep which has dismantled three cocaine laboratories, and brought trafficking to a standstill. The Ministry of the Interior said.

Britain and Guatemala friends after 24 years

By Rodney Cowton

Britain and Guatemala are to resume relations later this month, 24 years after diplomatic relations were broken off by Guatemala because of its claims over Belize, which was then the colony of British Honduras.

President Vicio Cerezo announced on Thursday at a press conference in Guatemala City that the two countries would open consular offices on August 15.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office in London seems to have been taken by surprise by the specific date announced by President Cerezo, but said: "As Ministers have made clear, we have always been ready to resume official relations with Guatemala without pre-conditions.

We welcome President Cerezo's recent statement. We hope that his predicted timetable proves correct."

There will be hopes in Britain that the restoration of consular relations will pave the way for a resumption of full diplomatic relations. British interests in Guatemala have been represented by Switzerland, and El Salvador has acted for Guatemala in Britain.

There was no indication in President Cerezo's announcement of whether it implied a change in Guatemala's position over Belize.

Britain takes the position that Belize is an independent nation, and its relations with Guatemala are not a British concern. Nevertheless, Britain has a defence agreement with Belize, under which a small garrison is maintained there.

Its presence is usually regarded as being a consequence of the tensions between Belize and Guatemala.

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Are the recent quakes even related? On this point, amazingly, flying in the face of common sense, all the experts are agreed.

"No one has ever been able to show that there is a significant correlation between them," says Lucille Jones, a Pasadena geologist. "Every time someone sets out to try to find some correlation the studies have shown that the earthquake process is random."

Conrad, the Los Angeles Times Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist, was simply reflecting the public mood when he drew the map of the entire state of California falling into tiny fragments, with the geologists' comments engraved beneath it.

The truth seems to be that, apart from inviting us to be prepared, the seismologists can agree only that the big one is coming sometime within the next 30 to 50 years.

Wheat offer by US Russian... Looting on blaze liner... Zambia picks new envoys... Press curb... Ceiling up... Death cras... Minelli... Venice rise... Jail for brit... Guard dies... Lorry prote... Bus plunge... Lorry prote... Politics

SPORTING DIARY

Simon Barnes

Liquid assets

The chill grey water of the Solent will soon be bottled - to the profit of an Australian entrepreneur. It could make a second fortune for Gary Normal - that really is his name - from bottled seawater. He is currently marketing America's Cup water: 250 bottles of the stuff from the sea off Fremantle, where the cup will be sailed for later this year. You might think that such a notion would work only with sentimental, gimmick-loving Americans, but hardbiten Australians are queuing up to spend slightly more than £4 a time for their bottled sea.

On a recent trip to England, however, Normal met David Evans, a member of the British America's Cup syndicate. Evans suggested diversification: why not, he said, bottle the waters where the first America's Cup races were held: the special gul-churning stuff from around the Isle of Wight? Normal was struck by the logic of this: he returns to England soon to begin his project of bottling Solent water. The Australians, I am sure, will lap it up.

Red run

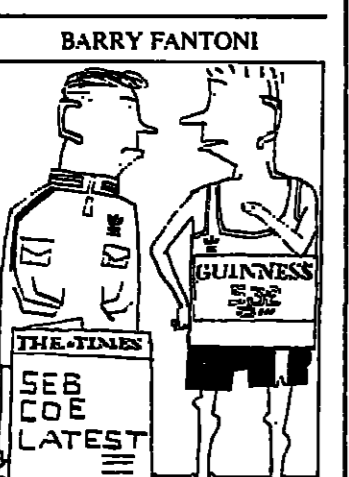
What do members of the Revolutionary Communist Party do in the moments they can spare from changing the face of civilization as we know it? Well, the party has been running a summer school all this week at University College, London. Those attending have been improving their leisure hours by watching the racing on television - from Goodwood, the snouiest meeting of the year. In the admittedly rather unlikely event of these people being readers of this column, they will previously have been in on the winner I tipped last Saturday in the Diamonds at Ascot.

Soft answer

Further to my report last week on the mixed-sex softball boom, I have received a tragic letter from the softballers of Clyde Park in London. After eight seasons, they have lost the right to play there. They say please can they start again, and they are really very sorry about the poor park-keeper. They really didn't mean him to get clonked by the ball.

Teed off

Quote of the week: "American football? It's a sick game, that's all. Big guys trying to beat the crap out of each other." From the top American footballer, Jim McMahon, quarterback of the Chicago Bears, who play the Dallas Cowboys at Wembley tomorrow. McMahon added: "If I could play golf just as well, I'd do it for a living. It's no fun waking up on Monday morning and you can't get out of bed. Golfers don't have that problem."



BARRY FANTONI

Head-burners

As the utterly underwhelming Commonwealth Games move towards their timely end, I feel the award for doggedness in the face of the impossible must go to the people who play bowls. One match between Australia and New Zealand went on for four hours and 15 minutes, ending at 10.15 pm with the players illuminating the game with cigarette lighters.

It's a start

English clubs may be banned from European football, but Matlock Town of the Multipart League is spear-heading the way back. This week, the Spanish first division club Sevilla went to Matlock and won 1-0. Sevilla had been looking for an extra match on their pre-season tour, and Matlock had been recommended to them. The titanic battle was witnessed by nearly 300 people.

Rhyme time

Readers may recall the limerick competition fought across this space in the spring. Both the quality and quantity of the entries were so high that there is now every chance that a book will come of it all. The proceeds will go to famine relief; all likely contributors will be formally approached in due course. Inevitably, a very large number of the limericks I received were about cricket. In an effort to widen the scope a little I am accordingly soliciting further examples of sporting but non-cricketing limericks. The ones I like best will be printed here and rewarded with The Times liver: all will be considered for the book.

War of two faiths in Nicaragua



Conor Cruise O'Brien finds that the Pope (and Ronald Reagan) are confronted by the power of a faith born of nationalism and 'the God of the Poor'

God is central to the current public debate in Nicaragua, and both sides constantly invoke His name. On all the main roads, near the larger centres of population there are huge printed posters reading simply: PARA NOSOTROS NO HAY MAS QUE UN SOLO DIOS (There is for us only one God.) But someone has been going round adding to each poster the words: EL DIOS DE LOS POBRES!

The "one single God", without further qualification, is the God of the Nicaraguan Roman Catholic hierarchy, led by Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, Archbishop of Managua. And this is also the God of Nicaragua's middle-class opposition, all of which - including Protestant oppositionists - looks to the cardinal as its political leader. The posters are assumed to be funded by the cardinal's North American friends.

"The God of the poor" is the God of the governing Frente Nacional Sandinista, of the three (formerly four) Catholic priests who are members of the government in defiance of the hierarchy and of the Pope; and of the many Catholic (and some Protestant) clergy and lay people, Nicaraguan and non-Nicaraguan, who have worked among the Nicaraguan poor and who see the Sandinista government as generally promoting the interests of the poor.

On the first Sunday of our stay in Nicaragua, my wife and I went to the little Church of San Domingo de las Sierritas, near Managua, to hear the cardinal say mass and preach. San Domingo is a pretty little church, high and cool. It lies in a relatively affluent area, and the congregation was a middle-class one.

There were also several television crews: the cardinal is always news. We followed the crews into the sacristy, where he was being filmed christening a baby. International publicity is part of his armoury in his struggle against the Sandinistas and their allies.

After the christening we all went back into the church. By mistake, my wife and I took the places intended for the baby's parents. Nobody even murmured. Nicaraguans are an unusually gentle people, in most contexts.

The cardinal is something of an exception. Even when saying mass he seemed that morning to be spoiling for a fight. As he put on his vestments, I thought he looked like a boxer getting ready for the ring. He is a small, powerfully built man, running to fat; has markedly Indian features, bullet head, thick neck, heavy jaw. His most marked expressive characteristic is that the corners of his mouth turn sharply down.

The cardinal read out, in a strong, clear voice, a letter of the Nicaraguan episcopate on "The Eucharist, Source of Unity of Inspiration". It was a well-written statement, in high Castilian style, with classical overtones. "They blame the church for silence, while they silence it..."

It contained a long passage, which the cardinal read out with especial resonance, attacking what he and his followers call "the popular church" (iglesia popular), meaning those who regard themselves as followers of el Dios de los pobres (who retort with the phrase iglesia institucional, applied to the cardinal and his supporters).

There was another passage, read with no special emphasis, which may be of more significance in the evolving struggle between Church and State in Nicaragua. The key sentence read: "We judge that any form of aid, whatever its source, which may lead to destruction, pain and death for our families or to hatred and division between our peoples is to be condemned."

Press censorship did not allow that episcopal letter (or several others before it) to appear in the newspapers. But it was readily available from diocesan press offices in Nicaragua, and became the subject of delighted comment in the April issue of Envio, a monthly review published by the Instituto Histórico Centroamericano in Managua.

It reflects the views of an influential group of Catholic intellectuals (priests and lay people) who are, as they say, in Managua, "with the process". The process in question is the revolutionary process, especially in its social aspects. The review singles out that passage, underlining parts of it, calling it a historic step (paso historico) and claiming that it means "the condemnation of the military aid of Ronald Reagan's

administration to the counter-revolution". Certainly it comes a lot nearer to meaning just that than anything the Nicaraguan bishops had ever said before; and it even seems an implicit condemnation of the position the cardinal himself less than a year before.

It doesn't seem an unreasonable inference that a section, perhaps a majority, of the Nicaraguan hierarchy is becoming refractory against the cardinal's leadership, in relation to the civil war. As regards the iglesia popular, he still calls the tune, but no longer on the Contrás, it would seem.

Some of the bishops, especially from the northern and eastern dioceses where they know most about Contrás at first hand, are believed to have had misgivings about the cardinal's lead on this matter for some time, on moral and humanitarian grounds. Others, more politically minded, may well feel that the cardinal's line simply doesn't make sense today, in terms of the church's interests.

The Contrás have never looked as if they could overthrow the Sandinistas, and they look even less like it now than they did in 1983-1984 (which was their peak). To call on the Sandinistas, as the cardinal has regularly done, to negotiate with the Contrás is to call for what is not going to happen. Nobody who knows anything about the Sandinistas believes that they would negotiate with the Contrás even if Managua were about to fall, which it is not. If it ever does fall, it will be to the invading armed forces of the United States.

It rather looks as if prudent churchmen may currently be a rising force in the Nicaraguan episcopate, and that they may be beginning to rein in the impetuous primate. If all that is so, it is not surprising if the cardinal looked a bit grim at mass that April morning in San Domingo de las Sierritas.

The Pope's visit to Nicaragua in 1983 is perhaps the most important, and certainly the most dramatic, episode in the great struggle between the institutional un solo Dios and el Dios de los pobres in Latin America in the late twentieth century. Both sides had looked to the Pope for a blessing, legitimizing its interpretation of the church's teaching.

The Pope's concept of his own authority is simply not compatible with the versions of liberation theology, and of el Dios de los pobres, which are fervently embraced by those Catholics who in Nicaragua are "with the process". On the other hand, it was natural for a Pope bent on restoring authority within the church to come to the support of an archbishop whose authority was being challenged and subverted. What was being challenged and subverted was not just the authority of Miguel Obando y Bravo but the very concept of the hierarchy, the whole structure of which the Pope himself is the apex.

So this formidable Pope, in taking on Sandinista Nicaragua, was taking on an adversary no less formidable than himself: an adversary representing forces that may possibly defeat the entire purpose of his pontificate and leave papal authority in ruins throughout Latin America before the end of the millennium.

Certainly the radical currents in the church set in motion by Vatican II contributed to the Nicaraguan process. And the result of the process was something unique in history: a revolutionary government including four Catholic priests, with widespread Catholic support, and regarded by a significant section of the Catholic Church as an earthly manifestation of the will of the God of the Poor. For these believers, the process is to culminate in el Reino de Dios: the Kingdom of God.

Among Sandinistas in Nicaragua, those words "the Kingdom of God" crop up in speech and in print with a frequency disquieting to the secular visitor; and to some religious visitors as well. What is most striking is the casual way in which the words are used. People refer to the coming Kingdom of God as if they were waiting for a bus.

I think it was that casualness that first brought home to me how serious these people are. You can actually feel around you something going on that you know can't be switched off, either from Washington or from Rome: that most intractable thing, a new kind of faith.

tion, the Magisterium, the teaching authority of the church, of which the supreme exponent is the Pope.

Some people think that the Pope has been more popular than any Pope before. But popularity is not to be confused with authority. Catholics love this Pope, but when he solemnly tells them that they must behave in some way that they don't find convenient, they just don't take a blind bit of notice of him.

John Paul II brought the weight of the Magisterium to bear against the liberation theologians, but the thing didn't work. The spring seems to be broken. He is getting to look more and more like an international Canute, magisterially perambulating all the strands of the world, before a huge and admiring audience, without the slightest effect on the tides.

Now all this has an important bearing on the prospects for Sandinismo, and also on the prospects for efforts to contain or extirpate it.

Sandinismo is apparently regarded in Washington as an essentially alien ideology, cunningly decked out in some kind of Latin American fancy-dress. I don't know whether they really believe these things in Washington, or whether they only pretend to believe them, but if they do believe this one, they are in fundamental error, and headed for more unnecessary trouble.

Sandinismo is a thoroughly Latin American ideology, with deep roots in Latin American history, and specifically in the history of Nicaragua. Far from being an alien phenomenon in Nicaragua, it is a native response to alien domination: that of the United States. Perhaps that is the basic reason why Sandinismo, viewed from Washington, looks so alien.

I think it would now be more accurate to speak of Sandinismo as a faith rather than an ideology. It is the most formidable kind of faith, the kind that is emotionally fused with national pride. And this kind of faith is now afloat in every corner of Latin America.

It is true that it is not the only kind of faith around. Latin America is now a melting-pot where faith is concerned. The traditional Catholic Church is collapsing, not just on one side but on two. On one side are the Christian revolutionaries, enlarging that espacio de theirs, appropriating the symbols, and so on. On the other, lots of Catholics have been defecting to the Protestant fundamentalist sects. The Latin American bishops, in their reply to the Pope's Instruction, sought to ascribe the inroads of the fundamentalists to the activities of the CIA. I think the bishops overestimate the CIA. It looks as if there are a lot of people who are attracted neither to the old kind of Catholicism nor the new one, and who are looking for a different kind of faith: more individual, more quietist.

But it is the new Catholicism that has the political dynamic, the capacity for revolutionary social transformation, and the capacity to fuse with national pride - as in earlier times millennialist Puritanism did, first in England and then in North America.

Is it necessary for the United States to take on the new Faith, by storming Managua, the new Geneva? There are three arguments by which it is alleged to be necessary to proceed in this way.

The first is that the new faith is not really a faith at all, but a disguise under which the Soviet power advances; the second, that even if the new faith is native to Latin America, it is basically hostile to the US; and the third that the new faith is intrinsically oppressive and totalitarian.

One of Sandinismo's essential characteristics is the restoration of national pride. People who are as fiercely and proudly nationalist as the Sandinistas are, are not about to hand their country over to new masters once they have got rid of the old one. Or rather, they are not about to do that voluntarily. They could be pushed into it if they felt it was the only alternative to surrendering to the power of the United States.

In Poland, Faith and Fatherland have been aligned for centuries. In Latin America they have not been, up to now, but in Sandinismo they are

anti-North-American, as they say, being Americans themselves. The movement's hero Sandino himself was fiercely anti-US - as well he might be, fighting the US Marines in his own country.

There is, I think, very little personal hatred in Nicaraguan anti-Americanism. Not even personal hatred for Ronald Reagan. There has been nothing in Nicaragua about Reagan, that at all corresponds to, for example, the torrent of frantic and obscene iconography which Buenos Aires directed at Margaret Thatcher at the time of the Falklands War.

Sandinistas indeed, understand Reagan rather better than most foreigners do. They understand, and up to a point respect, his talk about "standing tall", because "standing tall" is what Sandinismo, too, is all about. They recognize in Reagan, to that extent, a partly kindred spirit.

"Ronald Reagan," one Sandinista told me, "is the Che Guevara of imperialism."

What Sandinistas cannot accept, and will resist literally to their last breath, is the insistence that, for Americans to be seen to stand tall, Nicaraguans must cringe. The Sandinista elite is, unquestionably, "joined to the people" in that, unlike other Latin American juntas, it has worked to improve the condition of the poor and to provide humane government.

I would define the nature of this state as elitist and authoritarian, but not totalitarian, and not physically oppressive; although it can be held (and is held by the opposition) that rule by an elite, and press censorship, in themselves constitute oppression. That may be so, but if so, it is a milder form of oppression than the word generally connotes up or than prevails in most of Latin America.

The security forces are more restrained, and less apt to throw their weight around, than in other Latin American countries. The penal system is mild; this is not a gulag state. People are not free to publish attacks on the regime in the media, but feel absolutely free to attack it in private conversation, or from the pulpit.

All that may of course change under the pressures of the war, and other pressures. I am speaking of how things are now. The picture projected by the Reagan administration of present-day Nicaragua as a sort of totalitarian inferno is very far from the truth - as even American embassy officials occasionally admit.

In its early years, the regime made remarkable progress in the eradication of illiteracy and disease, and the replacement of sub-standard housing. But these achievements are now at risk because of the economic pressures on Nicaragua and because of the disruption of production in the countryside caused by Contra attacks on villages and co-operatives. There are now shortages of virtually everything, even water. So in terms of making life miserable for most Nicaraguans; the Reagan pressures have been quite successful. But the success would make some kind of sense - even of a nasty kind - only if the misery were putting the skids under the Sandinistas.

It is true that if elections were held now it is possible, though not in my opinion likely, that the public hardship might result in a majority against the Sandinista Frente. But, as Washington must know, the Sandinistas have no intention of letting themselves be put out of power in this way. Nor are unarmed masses of people about to rise up and expel the Sandinistas.

It is true that there are sizable numbers who care very little about the patria or el decoro nacional. For those in the Atlantic provinces for whom Spanish is not the first language, and whose religion is not Catholic - English-speakers of Jamaican origin and some Indians - the notions of the patria and Sandinismo cannot have much appeal. Today the prevailing attitude in these provinces seems to be "wait and see".

The Sandinistas cannot, in my opinion, be driven from Managua except by the direct use of US force. And if they are driven out, they will still go on fighting as guerrillas, and others will join them, and US forces will have to stay there to prevent a Sandinista comeback. And in that way, the more Nicaragua is likely to be forced in that direction, if Soviet power does indeed come to extend into Central America, it will be by courtesy of Ronald Reagan.

There is more substance in the second point, Latin American nationalism, including Sandinismo, is anti-American; or

AUGUST 2 1930

The R 100 was designed by Sir Barnes Wallis at the Airship Guarantee Company at Horden, Yorkshire; its companion ship, the R 101, was the work of a government team. A leader in the paper on the two airships thought that... airship transport... will soon be available for the safe and sure conveyance of passengers... between different parts of the Empire... These hopes vanished when the R 101 crashed in France on its maiden voyage in October 1930, the disaster overwhelming the success of the R 100, which was eventually dismantled.

THE R 100 AT MONTREAL

From Our Own Correspondent Montreal, Aug. 1 The R 100 was moored successfully at St. Hubert airport, Montreal, at 5.33 (Eastern Standard time) this morning, 79 hours after leaving Cardington.

On the final stage of her journey she had a trying experience, for shortly after 8.30 p.m. on Thursday, as she was heading up the St. Lawrence, she ran into a violent thunderstorm, which was accompanied by tempestuous winds. The airship was buffeted about and tossed hundreds of feet in the air, but she successfully rode out the storm without serious damage or difficulty. Her mooring, it was necessary to reduce wind, and when news of the delay reached the airport the crowds which had assembled melted away and only a few people remained with the officials and workers. About 2 a.m. the lights of the airship were sighted, and at intervals thereafter until dawn a searchlight showed her cruising in circles above Montreal.

A few minutes before 5 a.m. she turned her nose straight for the mooring tower, which was sparkling with lights, and slowly and smoothly drifted on to the mast. Everything worked without a hitch, and the mooring was completed in half an hour.

Several thousand people had gathered on the field by the time the R 100 was moored, and all day crowds have continued to pour in a steady stream from Montreal and the suburbs to see the airship. At the gang-plank the officers were met by the official reception party. All showed signs of weariness, but they denied experiencing any abnormal strain until they encountered the thunderstorm yesterday evening.

TEST OF AIRWORTHINESS Wing Commander Colmore said that the two samples of bad weather encountered during the voyage had put the airworthiness of the airship to exacting tests, and she had come through admirably. However, he deprecated any exaggerated significance being attached to the voyage as, although the flight had proved the efficiency of the thick-bodied, blunt-nosed type of airship represented by the R 100, compared with the Zepplin type, all her officers were agreed that neither the R 100 nor the R 101 could be considered as adequate for anything like a regular Transatlantic service.

Wing Commander Colmore described a voyage by airship as the most comfortable form of travel in the world, and said the only serious inconvenience had been to set back their watches and to drop three hours in one day, which brought meal times painfully close together.

LESSONS OF THE FLIGHT

It was not to be expected that R 100 would complete her long voyage without meeting adverse winds at this time of the year, and her experiences between the Gulf of St. Lawrence and Montreal justified the abnormally heavy load of petrol she carried. When she moored she had about 1,500 gallons of petrol left, which in favourable conditions might have given her an additional 700 miles. In the sort of weather she encountered over Canada the extra range would have been reduced to 350 miles.

Her margin, therefore, was not unduly large, and the difference between flying in fair weather and in strong headwinds is shown by the fact that, while 2,200 gallons of petrol sufficed for the first 1,000, she used 6,749 on the remaining 2,415 miles she covered. Her speed varied from 40 to 60 m.p.h., and Wing Commander Colmore's log shows the vital importance of weather reports in order that an airship may pick her course. Without the knowledge the commander had, she would certainly have made a slower voyage...

Great Eastern

From Mr J. Menhinick Sir, Mr Thomas (July 30) has got his lines crossed. Mr Lincoln was inaugurated as President of the United States on March 4, 1861, so how could he have had an exchange of greetings with Queen Victoria over an Atlantic cable laid in the latter half of 1857? The presidency was that of Mr James Buchanan.

I have the honour to be, Sir, Yours faithfully, JAMES MENHINICK, 69 North Salts, Rye, East Sussex. July 30.

Adult-proof

From Mr D. M. Davis Sir, It is very easy to get my child-resistant aspirin bottle open (letter, July 28, 30). I simply hand it to my eight-year-old nephew. If he isn't there, I don't need the aspirin. Yours faithfully, D. M. DAVIS, 10 Wood Ride, Haywards Heath, Sussex. July 30.

STILL THE LAW

Mr Justice Stuart-Smith's granting of an injunction to a number of plaintiffs, including Times Newspapers Ltd., against mass picketing at Wapping by the print unions and their sympathisers was a forceful restatement of the law rather than an extension of it. In stating the principle that both employees and visitors at the Wapping printing plant "should have the right to pass on all roads, including the pavement, approaching the plant unobstructed by pickets or demonstrators, and particularly unobstructed by pickets acting in an abusive, threatening or violent manner," he was stating the legally obvious. But he applied that general principle to the legal claims relating to Wapping with nice discrimination and with evident concern to balance the grievances of the union members against the rights of the company and its employees.

For instance, he disallowed the plaintiffs' claim that they had been subjected to the tort of unreasonable harassment — a "new" tort which had been produced by a judge in a South Wales case during the miners' dispute. Far from extending the law, then, he cast some doubt on the value of the one recent legal innovation in this field.

That left the traditional torts of nuisance and intimidation. Here the judge asked two crucial questions. Did the picketing, marches and demonstrations amount to nuisance and intimidation of the Wapping employees? And, if they did, were the union and its officials liable at law for such torts?

That the employees were subjected to the nuisance of unreasonable obstruction from mass pickets blocking the highway was all but self-evident. But intimidation had to be established more carefully. Counsel for the unions

argued — and the judge accepted — that abuse, swearing and shouting did not in themselves amount to intimidation. The judge went on to note, however, that the abuse by pickets had frequently included threats and that since there was "an abundance of evidence" of employees being followed, molested, assaulted and subjected to criminal damage to their cars and houses, such threats had to be taken seriously.

Intimidation, then, had certainly been attempted. Only the fine point that the employees had not bowed to such threats prevented the court from finding that it had been successfully committed.

But were the unions liable? They were not liable, concluded the court, just because they had organised a picket or a march in the course of which these tortious acts had been committed. Nor would they become liable merely because, in addition, they could foresee such consequences.

It was not until three conditions were fulfilled that the court found against the unions. These were that substantial numbers of union members were involved in the violence and intimidation; that such violence and intimidation were regular consequences of the marches and demonstrations organised by union officials; and that union officials had used none of their disciplinary powers to prevent such actions by union members.

Once these had been established, the judge had little alternative but to instruct the unions to limit their pickets to six and to ensure that future marches are "disciplined, peaceful and subject to the direction of the police." Should these conditions be violated and union officials cannot show they have taken steps to prevent violence and

intimidation, they will face fines.

Such a judgement is so plainly in line with long-established law that it is difficult to see how the printing unions, or anyone else, could have expected a different decision. That raises the question, however, of why the mass picketing at Wapping, with its regular violence and frequent intimidation, has continued so long.

One reason is undoubtedly practical. The police, overstretched at times, faced the unexpected challenges of large demonstrations. They accordingly used their discretion to protect the employees — who, it should be remembered, have been enabled to continue working throughout — rather than to curtail the unions' obstructive tactics altogether. That decision was perhaps a prudent one, but as the judge implied, it may also have stretched the limits of police discretion.

A less creditable factor, however, is the feeling that infects the Labour Party and the unions that physical force, short of outright violence (and that distinction is sometimes fudged) is a legitimate tactic against an employer in an industrial dispute. Not only is that wrong and dangerous in itself, but it also ignores the rights, indeed the very existence, of the employees who continue to work.

When the Shadow Home Secretary, Mr Gerald Kaufman, described the police at Wapping as "a private security service to enable Mr Murdoch to pocket his profits", he was attacking the idea that law-abiding citizens deserve police protection against riotous mobs. It is worrying that such sentiments are expressed frequently enough for us to be surprised to learn that they are not the law.

MALAYSIAN RENEWAL

The recent hanging of two Australian heroin smugglers brought Malaysia uncomfortably into British gaze. A mistaken impression was fostered: this is no land of catastrophe and strife. It is that rare creature, a Third World success. The armed forces are loyal to an elected government and respectful of democracy. The judiciary is independent. There are abundant natural resources.

But the recession in world trade has hit hard. Malaysia's gdp is expected to grow by only two per cent in 1986. Prices for all the country's traditional exports are depressed; oil revenues have plunged.

The fat years have been wasted. Too much has been spent on prestige projects such as the construction of the longest bridge in Asia, linking Penang to the mainland. A national car industry has been created, but every car produced is being sold at a loss and 25 per cent of production capacity lies unused.

A recent United Nations study identified Malaysian bureaucracy as a major hindrance to foreign investors and the local businessmen alike. The

new economic policy, a 20-year programme to give ethnic Malays a larger share of the economic cake has created a handful of Malay millionaires to the detriment of impoverished farmers and fishermen.

It is in this context that Malaysia tomorrow goes to the polls in the stiffest test yet faced by Prime Minister Mahatir and his National Front. Yet, despite economic reverse, it appears unlikely that the National Front will be supplanted. In the prosperous years of the early 1980s when the economy was growing at between 6 and 11 per cent per year, the ruling coalition won overwhelming dominance and the size of its lead will be too great for the opposition parties.

The urban-based Chinese group, the Democratic Action Party, is respected for its vigilance over the Government's doings, but is not going to be entrusted with political power. The rural Parti Islam espouses a Muslim state. The formula ought to be outrageous in this multi-religious community yet the party has waged a successful

campaign amongst the poor and the disaffected, attacking the Front's venality.

The National Front has been rocked by scandals implicating members of Dr Mahatir's cabinet. The leader of the Chinese party within the coalition is facing charges in Singapore of criminal breach of trust in connection with share dealings. The National Front's 1982 election slogan of "clean, efficient and trustworthy" rings hollow four years later.

Dr Mahatir must cleanse the stables, endeavouring to make his leadership more responsive to the reformers and a younger political generation, both within the National Front and in the opposition parties.

The young firebrand who wrote the explosive Malay Dilemma has become the type of politician he once attacked. The Prime Minister must take stock of Malaysians' needs in a changed economic climate and curb the excesses of a self-serving elite. Without reform and renewal in this rich and beautiful land, Islamic insurrection and racial strife could become a horrifying reality.

FOURTH LEADER

G.K. Chesterton used to say that if ever he felt like taking any exercise, he would lie down until he got over it. G.K. Chesterton would not have got on in Japan. On the other hand it is more important from their point of view that the Japanese should get on over here, and there are signs that they are about to go the wrong way about it.

This observation springs from the announcement that the new UK branch of Komatsu, which is not a martial art but an earth moving equipment company, is encouraging its employees to start the day with five minutes of physical jerks. This routine, commonplace in the land of the rising sun, is said to improve workers' fitness, raise their morale and reduce their propensity to have accidents.

No doubt it does. The mistake they are about to make at the Komatsu plant on Lyneside, is to say that the workers should do it. A firm with more experience of the people of this country would have issued a strict order that they shouldn't.

There is in the British, not least those who live in the area of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, something which we like to think of as the bulldog spirit,

but which others might call bloody-mindedness. This happy breed, led Nippon know, does not like doing what's good for it.

It is not just that the British are an inefficient race. It is actually that they do not want to be anything else. Trains run late in the Middle East and Africa because they cannot help it; and in India because they're too busy with the paperwork to notice. Here they run late because we associate trains which run on time with Mussolini. Commuters may stamp their feet and grumble on the up-line platform at Billericay or Haywards Heath. But deep down inside, they would not want it any other way. We distrust things that work, including ourselves.

This dislike of regimentation is manifested most clearly in the national attitude to exercise. For all anyone knows even Osbert Sitwell who wrote bitterly about compulsory games at school, might have developed into a wing three-quarter of rare gifts had anyone introduced an element of choice into his curriculum or even banned sport altogether. As it is, the muscular Christianity which was the precept for several generations of British schoolchildren, has

helped to encourage the national inclination to skive.

There are parts of suburban London through which it is dangerous to walk at dusk for fear of being knocked down, not by muggers but joggers. One might venture to suggest that these hapless young runners with their beastialk legs and heaving chests would no more pound the pavements if one asked them to than a tomcat might be forced to play the fiddle. They do it not because they think it is good for them, but because half the doctors of England say it isn't.

At least Komatsu have not made the mistake of making exercise mandatory. But workers are said to have been left with the clear impression that participation is very much expected of them. What the management should have done is to proclaim that on no account should any employee be seen to stretch his/her legs in the company's time. By nightfall, had it done so, the shop stewards would have demanded a gymnasium, a swimming pool, a small corps of PE instructors, competitive handball at coffee break and a silver cup for the highest number of nine o'clock press-ups. Ah, so...

Hospice service and Aids victims

From the Chairman of St Christopher's Hospice Sir, No special service, particularly one devoted to malignant disease, should be blamed for failure to admit patients who are outside their commitment and expertise (report, July 28).

During the 20 years of the modern hospice movement the many units and teams that have developed have concentrated almost exclusively on helping patients and families with severe problems from terminal cancer and, to a lesser extent, motor neurone disease.

Over 130,000 people die each year in England and Wales from cancer and the pressure on such a few that can contemplate admitting patients with other needs unless in exceptional circumstances.

A considerable body of expertise in controlling pain and other symptoms and helping families find their own strengths has been developed. Much of this is passed on throughout the NHS through many teaching programmes, and

is relevant to diseases other than cancer, including Aids (acquired immune deficiency syndrome).

Our own hospice policy will be to continue to admit patients with malignant disease, for whose care we were set up and whose need puts considerable pressure on our home care team and our in-patient beds, where the average stay is only three weeks. Any patients who are later found to be seropositive will remain with us unless their care calls for the facilities of an acute hospital.

As we welcome whole families for our unlimited visiting hours, any change of policy would mean a considerable programme of local education; but to suggest, as reported in your article, that hospices are failing to admit patients with this diagnosis merely because local concern may make a difference to their financial support, is untrue.

Yours faithfully, CICELY SAUNDERS, Chairman, St Christopher's Hospice, 51-59 Lawrie Park Road, Sydenham, SE26. July 29.

A separate Bar

From Mr Ian G. Inglis, WS Sir, As a Scottish lawyer I have followed the debate about the future shape of the legal professions in England with interest and some amusement. I wholly agree with the point made by Mr Brentnall (July 23) about counsel's fees. It might be of interest to consider the position in Scotland.

When counsel is instructed for a hearing no brief fee is demanded or paid. Counsel are paid for each day in court. If the case settles after counsel is instructed and shortly before the first day, the client is only liable to pay counsel's fees for the first day.

Counsel's fees are not normally agreed in advance. After the case is finished his clerk issues a note of the proposed fee. If the solicitor thinks this excessive he negotiates with counsel's clerk. If he cannot reach a satisfactory result the dispute can then be referred to the auditor of court who fixes the fee in the light of all the relevant circumstances. Fees for the

preliminary work done by counsel in a case are dealt with in a similar way.

Scottish counsel's fees are very much less than those charged in London. In over 25 years' practice I have seldom had to discuss a fee with counsel's clerk and have never had to refer one to the auditor.

Scottish counsel have always been ready and willing to act for anyone and I have known many cases where counsel have charged very small fees, even in complicated or lengthy cases, where they knew or suspected the client was impecunious.

One result of Scottish counsel's moderation in charging fees is that there is no informed opinion in favour of the fusion of the two branches of the profession in Scotland. Yours faithfully, IAN G. INGLIS, Maclay Murray & Spens (Solicitors), Erskine House, 68-73 Queen Street, Edinburgh. July 23.

Future of cricket

From Mr Anthony Given Sir, It can surely be no more than coincidence that the minor cricketing counties are all clustered in three large areas, including an uninterrupted swathe across England, extending from the Wash to Land's End.

But why is this situation apparently immutable? Are the economic and facility arguments really so strong as never to permit some sort of promotion and relegation system, giving the population of these areas the chance of not being condemned for ever to the outfield of first-class cricket?

Yours faithfully, ANTHONY GIVEN, The Croft, Walkern, Near Stevenage, Hertfordshire. July 29.

From Mr R. I. Massey Sir, The Middlesex Cricket Union, which is the member of the National Cricket Association representing recreational cricket in Middlesex, supports the views expressed by Mr David Green (June 24). The union realises that young cricketers are saddled with the pressure of expectation and competition, but it is not critical of this attitude provided it is kept in proper proportion.

We see our members in established clubs more determined than ever to foster the growth of colts sections. We would be delighted to explore more fully with

our cricketing colleagues in schools and the schools authorities themselves ways in which together we could more adequately combat the regrettable decline of state schools cricket.

For the young people we have in mind today who have yet to experience the game we are set up to encourage we assert that there will be rewarding pleasures from shared aims and achievements in cricket.

Yours faithfully, R-I MASSEY (Hon Secretary, Middlesex Cricket Union), 72 Gainsborough Road, Kew, Richmond, Surrey.

Sanctions debate

From Mr Humphry Berkeley Sir, Sir Arthur Snelling (July 30) is unfair to President Kaunda. At the time when sanctions were imposed against Rhodesia that country was a colony of the British Crown. Until 1963 Zambia, against its will, formed part of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland and its copper was used to build up industry within Rhodesia. The economies of the two countries were inextricably bound together.

For these two reasons President Kaunda had no alternative but to claim exemption from certain sanctions and, since Britain was the sovereign power in Rhodesia, he was right to look to Britain for compensation for the adverse effects upon Zambian economy. Yours faithfully, HUMPHRY BERKELEY, Three Pages Yard, Chiswick, W4.

Mixed-up plants

From Professor D. A. G. Galton Sir, Miles Kington, in his delightful piece about samphire (July 25) criticises two different plants. Shakespeare's samphire, *Citharus maritimum*, the rock samphire, is a member of the carrot family that grows mainly on cliffs and rocks, and the saltmarsh plant he ate in Brittany and knows from East Anglia is the marsh samphire, a group of species of *Salicornia* belonging to the spinach family.

Samphire, or sampier, was *herbe de St Pierre*, the "plant of the rock" once used to treat patients with stones in the bladder. The *salicornias* were known to the herbalist Gerard as glassworts

because the sodium carbonate in their ashes was useful in glassmaking; they became known as samphire because they were as good to eat as *C. maritimum*.

According to the late Geoffrey Grigson, Shakespeare may have known from Gerard's *Herbal* that "Rocke Sampier growth on the rocky cliffs at Dover", and later Robert Turner wrote "It is in credibly dangerous to gather yet many adventures" (from the cliffs of the Isle of Wight, for dispatch to London wholesalers in casks of sea water).

Yours faithfully, DAVID GALTON, Leaf Cottage, Cleynext-the-Sea, Norfolk. July 28.

Chapel heritage

From the Rev Ralph E. Fennell Sir, If more non-conformist chapels are to be preserved, as Mr Hassall suggests (July 26), more help will have to be made available by way of grant aid. All too often trustees are told that a particular chapel is worthy of listing but not of sufficient merit to warrant an English Heritage grant for its repair and restoration.

This suggests that far too many buildings are being listed. If a more selective policy were pursued, there would be a far greater chance of grant aid being available and ultimately more buildings being preserved.

What is more, when grant aid is given, onerous conditions are frequently attached which preclude alterations to the interior, despite the Ecclesiastical Exemption Clause. These conditions sometimes pose serious difficulties for trustees whose primary concern is the living work of the

Church, not the retention of a listed building.

The Ecclesiastical Exemption Clause is in the best interests of conservationists and trustees alike: without it many more listed buildings are likely to be disposed of or even demolished.

In particular the clause enables trustees to make greater use of the total cubic capacity, for so often the problem is one of size: congregations have diminished, the great barn-like chapels of yesterday are no longer viable and interior alteration and refurbishment lead to their preservation.

However, the problem is not simply one of size. The Liturgical Movement has brought renewal to worship with less formality and greater participation. For a congregation to have a sense of being a family gathered round the Lord's Table rearrangements have had to be made.

Church and chapel buildings today are very much needed for

Hovering on the edge of poverty

From Mr Paul Ashton Sir, In your report (July 26) on the Government's release of statistics relating to low income families, you say that the figures suggest that "more than 10 million Britons are living in poverty", and that the "poverty line" is defined for a single person as £29.40 a week and for a couple as £48.80. Neither statement is factual, however, though, of course, the poverty lobby would like us to believe that they are.

In fact no post-war government has ever released figures on the number of people in poverty. No government has ever agreed on exactly what constitutes poverty. The estimate of 10 million poor people is that given by Labour MP, Frank Field, and is based upon Government figures of the number of people who receive supplementary benefit or who have an income at or below this benefit level.

People on supplementary benefit cannot be described as living in poverty simply because they receive this benefit or because they have an income equal to it. Governments provide supplementary benefit so as to prevent poverty. So if the State benefit level is described as an official "poverty line", then plainly those receiving it or who have an income at that level are not in poverty.

There might well be a case of defining those in poverty as people with incomes below the supplementary benefit level, but is it any wonder that the Child Poverty Action Group claims that the Government statistics show that one in three Britons (about 18 million people) live in or on the edge of poverty, when the "edge of poverty" is taken by the CPAG to be a level of income some 40 per cent higher than the basic benefit level?

Yours faithfully, PAUL ASHTON, The University of Liverpool, Department of Economic and Business Studies, Myrtle Street, PO Box 147, Liverpool.

Television time

From Mr G. L. Lloyd Sir, The BBC prides itself on its impartial stance in reporting politics. In Parliament the Labour and Alliance Opposition parties see it as their duty to oppose.

Surely, then, the claim of the Alliance to a fairer share of television time should be denied on the grounds that a point of view has basically two strands — for and against.

What we are now seeing on our screens is a statement of a Government position, followed by an anti-view from the Labour Party, followed by yet another anti-view expressed by an Alliance spokesman. This, then, is not impartiality but bias against almost all Government measures. Yours faithfully, G. L. LLOYD, 55 Woodside Avenue, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire.

Lightening of spirit

From the Reverend S. G. Luff Sir, It is a pleasure to recognise the old "Fourth Leader", albeit third, in the traditional vein of Times humour ("Reigning cats — and dogs", July 28).

I cannot recall when this feature was suppressed, but in the forties, when I was a novice in a Benedictine monastery, it was the practice to read the Fourth Leader, subject to approval, in the refectory, while the brethren were taking their first substantial meal. Any student of monasticism knows the significance attached by the early Fathers to the "noontday demon" or *accidia*. Hard to define, it has been described as "don't care-ishness" and "torpor", though the latter is more appropriate to the time after lunch. The *Times* reading would follow a passage from Scripture and the combination of divinity, levity and a full platter seemed to be just the thing for getting the brethren through this small daily crisis.

Vocations to the monastic life have notoriously declined. One hazard is a guess that the absence of this special brand of light relief may be a contributing factor. Would a guaranteed revival of the Fourth Leader lead to a strengthening of our monastic communities at the present time? Yours faithfully, STANLEY G. LUFF, Our Lady's Church, College View, Llandoverly, Dyfed.

community use. They also interest thousands of tourists precisely because of the successive alterations and extensions that have been made to them over the years to accommodate the living work and thus pass on the heritage of faith.

As far as the Methodist Church is concerned — and we still have 8,000 chapels — no scheme of repair, alteration or extension can be undertaken without approvals having been obtained at local, circuit, district and national level. We are not the iconoclasts we are often made out to be; but our chapels are of no use to us unless we can use them as centres of worship and bases for contemporary mission and service.

Yours faithfully, RALPH E. FENNELLS, General Secretary, The Methodist Church Property Division, Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester. July 29.

Church and chapel buildings today are very much needed for

THE ARTS

Television Golden oldies

Miami Beach, Florida, is the wrinkly capital of the world - Working with orange groves and serious money - and those of its inhabitants who may still be dignified with the label "middle-aged" appear, by contrast, preternaturally young and vivacious.

The Golden Girls (Channel 4) are four single women, variously divorced or widowed, who find themselves flung together in a toney, over-decorated "home" by virtue of a small and a domestic fire.

Another four golden girls were put through their paces in The Fairer Sex (BBC2), an unexpected delight of the almost-silly season.

The programme's avowed aim of demonstrating the instrument's versatility came off splendidly, from the harmonium-like qualities of 16th-century sonnets of Debussy, and while one may have questioned the somewhat over-literal use of accompanying photographic stills, the girls themselves - got up in appropriate costumes and indulging in modest synchronized stepping - were evidently having the most enormous fun.

Martin Cropper

A twin tribute to Franz Liszt (right) who died 100 years ago Honouring his master's soul

Liszt Memorial Concert Festspielhaus /BBC2/ Radio 3

It was to Bayreuth that Franz Liszt made his last pilgrimage for the premiere of Parsifal, loyal to the end to the friend whose work he had tirelessly promoted throughout his life.

It was there that he died peacefully on July 31, 1886, and it was to the Festspielhaus that a capacity audience and television viewers from 14 countries were drawn for a grand centenary celebration organized by Liszt's great grandson, Wolfgang Wagner.

The "Faust" Symphony was chosen as the main work, and understandably so, as its three "character pieces" can be thought to reveal as much

about Liszt as Faust, Gretchen and Mephistopheles.

Much can be made, in performance as in commentary, of this presumed identification, and perhaps justifiably so, as Liszt himself was said to carry a walking stick on which were carved the heads of Gretchen, Mephistopheles and, significantly, not Faust but St Francis of Assisi.

The triptych can equally well be listened to, though, as absolute music, rather in the spirit of Debussy's Preludes, their programmatic tags slipped in at the end; and it was this approach which Daniel Barenboim, conducting the Bayreuth Festival Orchestra and Chorus, encouraged.

Faust's agony of conflict was forgotten as the ear became absorbed in the taut counterpoint of strings and brass, pushing inexorably against some beautifully



poised wind solos, and towards the stately final apotheosis in Barenboim's lucid structure.

Gretchen's vignette was, as Liszt wanted, true chamber music for full orchestra, with each tapering phrase gently lifted by Barenboim in and out of a constantly ventilated texture.

Here, rather than in Robert Schum's strained final solo, was Goethe's ewig weibliche, the eternal feminine, alone resistant to Liszt's diabolical metamorphosis.

Hilary Finch

LSO/Conlon Albert Hall/Radio 3

Besides the BBC's other commemorations of the Liszt centenary this week, it provided a double promenade concert with programmes for organ and orchestra.

The concluding account of the Dante Symphony, by the London Symphony Orchestra under James Conlon, was a reassurance that the composer did sometimes contrive to keep his romantic reach within his intellectual grasp.

The performance achieved notably beautiful effects in the almost pastel colours at the start of "Purgatorio", before the souls became so shackled to Liszt's time-serving fugue, growing ever more prolix as we awaited the invisible treble voices of the Finchley Children's Music Group who sang the "Magnificat" from the hall's topmost gallery.

To preface the symphony were two examples of Liszt's capacity for self-satisfaction. The orchestral versions of his Two Legends, published only two years ago and here given their British premiere, are now thought possibly to have preceded the familiar piano form. This performance revealed more of a debt to Berlioz.

Jazz A naive ecstasy Jazz Warriors ICA

Ever since the lights went out on the Swing Era, the conventional wisdom has had it that only an Ellington, a Basie or a Kenton can afford to keep a big jazz band together. It is with some sense of unreality, then, that one finds oneself reporting the existence in London of not one 21-piece jazz orchestra, but two.

Hot on the heels of Loose Tubes, whose most recent triumph was described on this page a few days ago, come the Jazz Warriors, an ensemble of very different temperament born a few months ago and fronted by the saxophonist Courtney Pine.

The five pieces they performed on Thursday night made it apparent that the polish and the sharp wit of Loose Tubes are not in their armoury. Instead they aim for the kind of permanent ecstasy that was the characteristic goal of the followers of John Coltrane in the late Sixties, symbolized by their period-piece version of Pharoah Sanders's "The Creator Has a Master Plan".

Noël Goodwin

Bursting pride of youth

Don Juan Vadstena, Sweden

The second floor of a medieval castle in a little visited part of western Sweden may seem an improbable place to go in search of Don Giovanni. Improbability is compounded when the role of Giovanni, or Juan, turns out to be sung by a counter-tenor rather than by a hefty baritone. But so it is at Vadstena, on the shores of Lake Vättern, where there is to be seen Alessandro Melani's Don Juan, generally reckoned to be the first opera on the theme of the rake taken down to hell by a statue come to life.

The summer Academy at Vadstena have been putting on baroque operas, late and early, for some 20 years now, intermingled with a few contemporary pieces. The performers are all in their twenties and at the start of

their professional careers: the feeling is midway between the Britten-Pears School at Aldeburgh and St Louis in its very early days. Arnold Ostman presided over matters musical in the Seventies, Göran Järvefelt was among the producers at that time and Vadstena remains one of the places where young singers can show their paces.

Certainly they could not wish for a more interesting piece than Melani's Don Juan. It was commissioned by Sweden's own Queen Christina and first performed in Rome in 1669 before her and 26 cardinals, who must have been a fairly Firbankian lot to judge from the raciness of the action.

Filippo Acciajuoli's text was written only 30 or so years after Tirso de Molina's El Burlador de Sevilla, reckoned to be the grand-daddy of all the Giovanni plays. Acrimante

(Giovanni) and his servant Bibi (Leporello) are shipwrecked on a strange shore, where the first person they meet, such is the arm of coincidence, is Atamira (Elvira), still in search of her one-time lover.

Most of the action familiar from Mozart and da Ponte is contained in the last act, musically the best of the three, where Juan, accused of rape (suspected) and manslaughter (real), is taken down to Hades by that statue with a number of Furies to help him on his way. Parts of Melani's lengthy score are pleasant but forgettable. Juan's aria contemplating death, however, is worthy of Purcell, as is some of Proserpine's ballet music.

Mikael Bellini's Juan is the personification of the attractiveness of sin - a touch of Boy George in his younger and happier days, coupled with a counter-tenor of firm clarity



Mikael Bellini as Don Juan

rare in a country short of such singers.

Melani is careful to mix the solemnities of seduction with plenty of lusty horseplay between Juan's rough servant (Lennart Forsen) and the nurse of the Anna figure, a high tenor role in which Hugues Cuñod would have excelled, sung with playful cheeriness by Mark Bartholsson. The style is not far from an opera like La Calisto. Among the ladies Pia-Marie Nilsson (Atamira) is the one likely to move quickly into the opera circuit.

Per-Erik Ohm's production, simple and effective, and Anders Öhrwall's conducting make Don Juan much more than a musicologist's piece.

John Higgins

Opera Ariodante Buxton Festival

Ian Judge's new production of Ariodante has many inventive, not to say bizarre, touches. The purists probably winced incessantly, as one glorious aria after another became background music for some vicarious thrill or laugh-inducing antic. But Judge would be justified in arguing that he entertained a festival audience far more than they were expecting from a Handel opera.

First we had Ginevra slipping out of her clothes and into the bath (demurely pulling the bubbles over her essentials). That sets the tone - or lowered it, depending on your viewpoint. Later, the villainous Polinesso stripped down to his boxer shorts for a fairly explicit romp with Dalinda. Fair enough, I suppose; Ariodante has to believe it was more than a cup of cocoa if his suicide attempt is to seem credible. There was even a neatly-worked suggestion of a parallel with Othello: Polinesso taunting Ariodante by dangling Ginevra's handkerchief in front of him.

A more surrealist idea was to have two horn players on stage in their evening dress (the costumes were otherwise loosely 18th century), flanking the King of Scotland. And as the opera progressed the staging became still more extre-

me. Polinesso was killed not by the usual sword lunge but by a karate chop to the neck instead.

Was all this frantic business hiding something? It did seem odd, that, with 40 or more servicable Handel operas to choose from, Buxton should put on one of the very few that requires both a chorus and a ballet - and then not engage either.

The omitted ballets were the most serious aspects of a considerable snipping operation. In general, though, the musical side was happily nurtured by Anthony Hose, with sturdy support from the Manchester Camera.

Apart from James Bowman's suitably pasty-faced, sinister Polinesso - whose big counter-tenor was in good form - and Roderick Earle's imposing King, the cast was a little under-powered. Eirian James, in the title role, sang with an eloquent, well-controlled tone and (in the despairing Act 2 arias) considerable sensitivity, but an over-applied legato led to poor enunciation.

Meryl Drower made a spirited, rather froozy-like Dalinda, and Rosa Mannion, if unpredictable in the upper reaches, conveyed the distraught Ginevra's plight effectively, though her minicadenza in the "mad" aria was surely more Donizetti than Handel.

Richard Morrison

THE SUNDAY TIMES

ALL THAT'S BEST IN BRITISH JOURNALISM AN EXCLUSIVE POLL



What the South Africans really think

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Sunday isn't Sunday without the Sunday Times

Radio Serious business of making 'em laugh

The plight of the radio funny man is a bit like that of the blue comedian set down to entertain an audience of

presbyterian elders: "Ye'll no get a laugh out of us, laddie". Or rather "Ye'll no get a laugh out of me multiplied by half a million". The precise figure is neither here nor there, but the analogy is close because every radio broadcaster is, in effect, addressing an audience of one (or maybe two or three) multiplied thousands of times over, an audience who sits or stands or wanders about pretty well impervious to the warm tide of sympathy that rises when a comic begins to make live contact.

The successful comedy shows get over this by building up a fund of sympathy, and I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clee (Radio 4, Saturdays, repeating Wednesdays) is one of them. We know now what to expect of the resident panel (Brooke-Taylor, Rushon, Garden, Junkin) as they mander like four mutinous cretins never quite safely under the control of charge-nurse Lynelton.

On the strength of a previous series, I am also kindly disposed towards Dr Rob Buchman who, in Medicine Balls (Radio 2, Mondays) is delivering a new set of mock medical lectures to an audience. Of course, Dr Buchman knows exactly what he is talking about: he is a talented medical scientist, and last time his audience of students at a teaching hospital - and this audience of one at home - fell about in recognition of a fine send-up.

This time things are not so happy. Some disastrous scheduling - he was recorded over Easter weekend - left him with thin, dull audiences - and it shows. He is struggling for laughs. But some of his lines are very good. His wide-eyed inquiry as to how any particular hair knows it is a public hair is funny, partly because it touches on a burgeoning field of research that has been heard to take itself a little solemnly. But I think this missed his audience. Although I am told his fourth and last disquisition picks up quite a lot, my advice

would be to wait for another series.

The "make-me-laugh-damn-you" response is at its most active with newcomers, while the best wear it down. However, I give nothing for the chances of Trivia Test Match (Radio 4, Wednesdays, 9.00pm-10.00pm, Thursdays). That the Radio Times billing refers to Paul Spencer as "groundsmen" is a gloomy portent and the product lives down to it. Here is another panel game, one based loosely, and for me so far incomprehensively, on the laws of cricket. Tim Rice, Willie Rushton (again), William Franklyn and Martin Jarvis are the players, Brian Johnston (inevitably) the umpire. The questions are of such amazing, such heterogeneous inconsequence - "Which is the most middle-class town in England?" Answer: Bromley - that it must have required a very high degree of misplaced ingenuity to think them up.

To be fair, Trivia Test Match is supposed to be, as its description, trivial. But trivia are first cousins to, and often indistinguishable from, junk. I tuned to A Splendid Discipline (Radio 4, Sunday) without much hope. A series tracing "the development of music within the cinema"? Oh dear - rivers of tunes with which to ride into the sunset. Far from it, a newcomer, Diane Shelley, presented us with a history of the cinema from camera obscura via biopscope to celluloid. Maybe, when the sunsets come, we shall see them in new light.

Meanwhile, the first series of Face the Facts (Radio 4, Wednesday) has ended. A programme on the prodigious waste of energy in the public services and how an injection of private money could reduce it, gave Margo MacDonald a chance to put some telling questions and the Treasury a chance to tarnish its image still further by dismissing them. She may not be in the laughter business, but next time I shall be kindly disposed to Ms MacDonald and her programme, too.

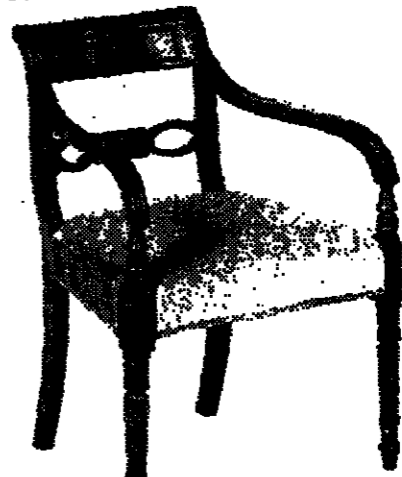
David Wade

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August 2-8, 1986

SATURDAY

A weekly guide to leisure, entertainment and the arts

This is the man that Jack built

Photograph by Sarah Kradie



Jack Lemmon, star of early Wilder films, comes to the London stage next week in an American classic. Bryan Appleyard met

a veteran who still likes to take on the challenge of fear

Jack Lemmon is half-way up a ladder outside the Haymarket Theatre Royal, close to Piccadilly Circus. That's where the 50 or so photographers want him, so that's where he goes. "Who ees zis guy?" asks a young French tourist, irritated at being forced into the road by the growing crowd. "Jack Lemmon... aah". He seems placated by the information.

New York and Roger Peters, the co-producer, came up to me and just said who I would want to play Tyrone if I was directing the play. I said somebody like Jack Lemmon, then I thought and said, "In fact, I would like Jack Lemmon."

For television, radio and the press, without any detectable weariness he trots out the same answers. "No, I've never played on the London stage before... Yes, it's a great thrill... No, I wasn't worried about terrorism..."

But Lemmon is sacred too. In comedy and in tragedy he has come to represent the reasonable guy confronted by the unreasonable - immorality in *The Apartment*, the need to be a woman in *Some Like It Hot* or the enduringly cantankerous Walter Matthau. Later he has also taken on the cause of outraged liberalism in the film *Missing* and in his real-life support of ecology groups.

For Lemmon is as nice, patient and even-tempered as every body says he is. Dressed in light blue windcheater, Reebok tennis shoes, grey cords and a blue towelling shirt, he looks the essence of stable, tolerant, wealthy middle America. The one negative touch is that he looks a little frail. The 61 years have pretty thoroughly marked him and it seems improbable that he can sustain the three hours 15 minutes of Jonathan Miller's production of Eugene O'Neill's *Long Day's Journey Into Night*, which opens at the Haymarket on August 4.

Before the media circus, we spoke in the Haymarket's dressing room number 10. It is a spartan, uncomfortable place, with an empty board on the wall headed "telegrams", and a bed.

Miller is in evidence among the hacks and tells the story of Lemmon's casting as James Tyrone.

It was the first time I've played O'Neill as well and it's



Almost 50 films and two Oscars later, Jack Lemmon, far from being perturbed by his punishing programme, confesses to feeling 'like a two-year-old kid again'

"I was walking through the foyer of the Plaza Hotel in

not a contemporary part. I almost always play contemporary parts - I think I understand them. I understand the pressures we are all under. I'm also drawn by films about our behaviour. Obviously getting the comic or tragic element right comes first, but then you need to tell people something. Billy Wilder did it in *The Apartment* - he grew a rose in a garbage pile."

Barrauh. I think *Les Enfants du Paradis* showed me that acting was much more than just the voice. So I came to use my face and my body more and more."

He was born in Boston. On the day of the delivery, his father did not want to leave a bridge game so they arrived late at the hospital. They were then stuck in a lift and it was in there that Lemmon breathed his first. At the age of nine the lead in the school play fell ill and Lemmon stood in. He had a 15-line speech, not one of which he knew. He walked centre stage in a costume far too large for him and got a laugh. He walked to the wings to be prompted by a teacher and got another laugh. He did the same for every line and got 15 laughs.

"I guess some kids would have never wanted to go on the stage again. But I realised I could make these people laugh. After that I never wanted to do anything else."

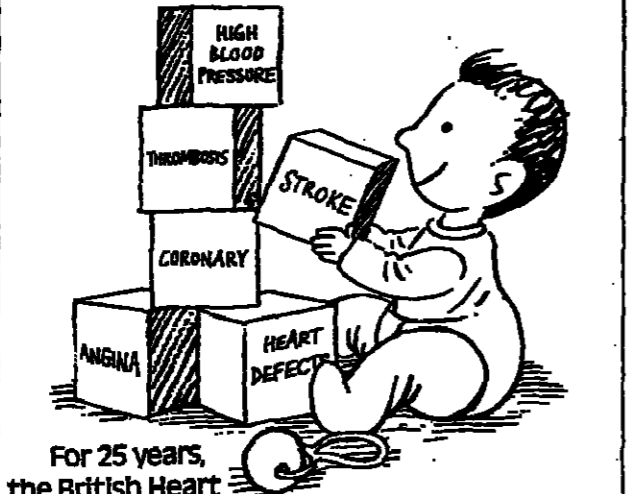
He went to Harvard and, because of the war, was obliged to graduate with a degree of War Service Sciences - "what every actor needs". While hustling for television parts around New York, he met Walter Matthau. At the mention of the name, the already watery eyes turn even moister.

"Oh God, that guy makes me laugh when he just walks into the room. I mean his

sympathetic characters, he makes them understandable, acceptable. And even in the most farcical movie, he introduces what Jonathan Miller called "an edge of seriousness", a certain intensity. He always seems visibly to be thinking, rationalising, hoping.

He lives in Los Angeles with his wife Felicity. His son from his first marriage, Chris, is in show-business, while his daughter Courtenay has been studying in London before going to New York University. And Matthau remains his greatest friend.

One day son, all this won't be yours.



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Wilder seemed to have glimpsed Lemmon's ability to suggest a man in the grip of a mania to straighten things out, to get back to normality, but whose every attempt seems to make things worse. This can be comic or tragic and Wilder used Lemmon for both.

Lemmon himself is quite clear about the ancestry of the style. "When I was young there were three actors who really knocked me on my can - Spencer Tracy, Robert Donat and Jean-Louis

Barrauh. I think *Les Enfants du Paradis* showed me that acting was much more than just the voice. So I came to use my face and my body more and more."

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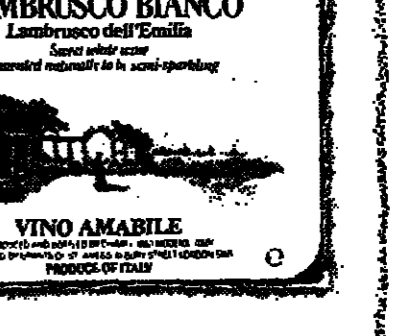
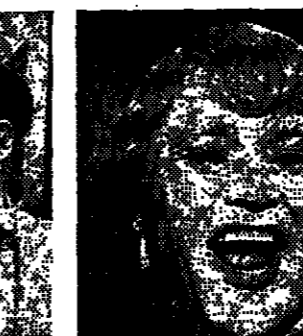
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A LONG CAREER'S JOURNEY

One of Hollywood's shrewdest and most intelligent actors, Jack Lemmon started in comedy and has grown steadily more serious. *Days of Wine and Roses*, in which he played an alcoholic, gave early notice of something darker behind the gift for light comedy. "Happiness", said the director Billy Wilder, a man who does not suffer actors gladly, "is working with Jack Lemmon."



Essence of Lemmon: in *The Front Page*, 1974 (left) and *Some Like It Hot*, 1959

Light and shade: in *The Apartment*, 1960 (left) and *The China Syndrome*, 1979

Polished and professional, Lemmon has never given a bad performance and rarely a dull one. His comic timing is superb but he can suffer convincingly as well. In either role he is the nice guy trying to make sense of a chaotic world, winning our sympathy because he is not obviously smarter than we are.

His finest screen achievement, though not the best known, was his portrayal of a small businessman beset with personal and financial problems in *Save the Tiger*. To get the film made, Lemmon agreed to forgo a salary; his reward was rave notices and an Oscar. It is surprising that he has not tackled the big classics before, but after James Tyrone in *Long Day's Journey*, one of the most taxing roles in the repertoire, he seems prepared to scale new heights.

Light and shade: in *The Apartment*, 1960 (left) and *The China Syndrome*, 1979

Light and shade: in *The Apartment*, 1960 (left) and *The China Syndrome*, 1979

Light and shade: in *The Apartment*, 1960 (left) and *The China Syndrome*, 1979

Light and shade: in *The Apartment*, 1960 (left) and *The China Syndrome*, 1979

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Richard W... Morrison

An auction here you can even afford the time.

OTHEBY'S ONDUTS ALEROOM

SATURDAY Dream castles to log cabins: the total experience of a Californian tour - page 10

VICTORIA WINE OF THE MONTH SANSOVINO LAMBRUSCO BIANCO THE VICTORIA WINE COMPANY

California - from luxury to loneliness

Fantastic diversions on the road to perfection



Subtlety and discretion were not exactly William Randolph Hearst's style. The image of a bustling cornucopia guided his hand when he built a little place of his own in the hills overlooking the surf-blasted coast of California at San Simeon, midway between Los Angeles and San Francisco.

La Casa Grande is a 137-foot high mansion packed with art treasures and surrounded by 120 acres of fecund gardens, Greek and Roman style terraces and pools, fountains and extravagant Renaissance guest houses. When he invited people to stay - usually film stars - they pranced between the white marble statues, the slender palms and orange trees to the whirr of home-movie cameras. William Randolph's soaring fantasy spreads richly over La Cuesta Encantada - the enchanted hill - its twin ivory coloured towers beseeching admiration from the drivers on Route One of the glorious Californian coast a few miles to the west. Hearst Castle, as it is now better known, is an elaborate alabaster and marble memorial to what must have been his lusty yearning

traipse the Doge's Suite, the Celestial Suite, the Gothic Study and Library, to admire the tapestries, the fine wood carvings, the huge French and Italian fire mantels, the silver collection, the Persian rugs and Roman mosaics. When Hearst could not replicate, he bought the real thing.

Although I started my Californian motoring tour 250 miles further south in Los Angeles, I regarded Hearst Castle as the gateway to the part of the state I was to most enjoy - the beautiful 100-mile long Big Sur coastline to trendy Carmel, Steinbeck's Monterey, north to San Francisco and then east into the Sierra Nevada for some crisp, tingling mountain air.

Carmel is a swish, expensive little town of bistros and galleries and marks the entrance to a beautiful diversion on the way to Monterey through the pines, cypress groves and private estates of the Del Monte Forest. At its western edge, along the rocky beaches, seals, sea lions and sea otters roll in the spume of the surf.

As I left for Monterey, the clear blue skies were beginning to darken with storm clouds and the Pacific was doing a passable imitation of the North Sea on a winter's day. I made straight for Cannery Row, sure in the knowledge that I was about to be disappointed.

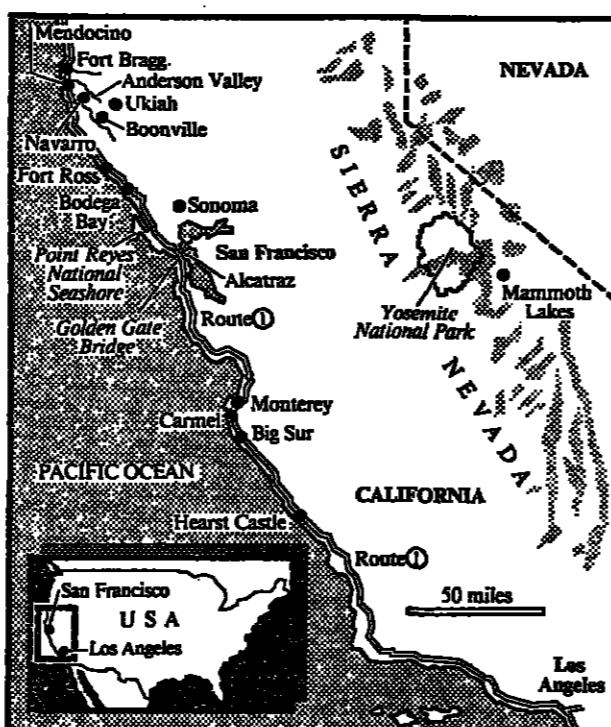
The former sardine canning area had moved John Steinbeck to write: "Cannery Row is a poem, a grating noise, a quality of light, a tone, a habit, a nostalgia, a dream". That was some time ago and now it just packs tourists. I looked in vain for some trace or memory of Doc Ricketts, Dora's bordello (I did not like to ask) and Lee Chong's grocery, but found only canneries converted into shops, restaurants and trinket stalls. On nearby Fisherman's Wharf I watched these seals and sea lions crash about among the yachts and fishing boats and fight for sleeping space on the timber superstructure beneath the wharf.

I was told it was impossible to find anything even slightly bad about San Francisco. I can understand why, although the city was lashed by torrential rain for most of the time I was there and Alcatraz Island and the Golden Gate Bridge made only brief appearances through the swirling mist drifting across the bay.

The storms that were drowning the city in rain were dumping several feet of late spring snow in the Sierra Nevada about five hours driving to the east, and I was unable to reach my next location, Mammoth Lakes, on the other side of the mountain range.



Pride comes with the falls: extravagance at Hearst Castle and rural splendour in the Yosemite Park



I found myself instead a guest at the classic Alhambra Hotel in the stunningly beautiful Yosemite Valley, in the foothills of the Sierras. The drive there was through lush green meadows and the lower valley was bursting into blossom, but winter was still firmly locked in Yosemite. Yosemite National Park is 1,200 square miles of quite extraordinary beauty - upland meadows and lakes cascading waterfalls, giant sequoias and towering peaks. From the balcony of my sixth-

TRAVEL NOTES

Craig Seton flew to California on a British Caledonian flight (Gatwick-Los Angeles, from £499) arranged by Jetset, Sussex House, London Road, East Grinstead, Sussex RH19 1LD (0342-27711). Self-drive car hire was arranged by Bricar International Car Rental, 28-30 Woodcote Road, Wallington, Surrey, SM4 0NN (01-773 2321). An economy car costs from £73 for seven days. Jetset can arrange fly-drive holidays with Bricar.

Except in Yosemite Park, he stayed in Best Western Hotels charging from £30 a night for a double room. For reservations contact Best Western Hotels, 26 Kew Road, Richmond, Surrey TW9 2NA (01-940 9766).

The Alhambra Hotel costs £96 a night for a double room. Reservations: 5410 E. Home, Fresno, CA 937 27. Cheaper accommodation is available in the village from £14 per night for tented cabins.

David Walker travelled on a three-week fly-drive package from British Airways with a four-door Renault Alliance rental car, £1,300 for two adults and child. Additional car hire charges were £185. Cheap out-of-season motel prices start at about £20 a night per room. The Visitors' Guide to the Redwood Empire is useful; it is available from the Redwood Empire Association, 1 Market Plaza, San Francisco CA 94105.

along the river valley to the base of El Capitan, the mammoth, sheer-faced mountain of granite that is one of Yosemite's many landmarks, and clambering uphill along rock-strewn paths among the pines below the falls.

Yosemite is exquisite. My last glimpse was of hawks soaring above the peaks, deer running by the river and a family of coyote tumbling in the crisp drifts of snow.

The snow was still deep on the ground, so I investigated the valley on horseback, trekking

Mysteries that beckon beyond dark forests



In summer the northern coast of California can be misty. It was misty, it was early winter on State Highway One, 250 miles of switchback cliff and shore all the way from San Francisco Bay to the Oregon border. In the late afternoon the view out across the Pacific to the searing sun was brilliantly clear.

The destination, just before dusk, was Fort Ross, the restored site of an Imperial Russian outpost established by fur trappers the year Napoleon reached Moscow. And it was time to leave because by 5pm northern California was dark.

On the coast road motels are scarce. One route lay inland, into the forests. The road lacked verges and often signs; it dipped to cross a succession of fast streams before starting to climb the coastal hills. And so it went for 40 night-time miles, every corner threatening an end to road, an impassable wall of pine, or worse until eventually it became a freeway lit by neon, the light of civilized America.

After the dark woods, Ukiah was a gaudy oasis, a working town of loggers and farmers with a latterday mixture of wine-makers and marijuana growers. Out of season the motels all showed their vacancy lights. On main street there was Ron de Voo's restaurant with down-home cooking and matronly waitresses out of *Allie Doesn't Live Here Anymore*.

North from Ukiah is the Avenue of the Giants, 33 miles of towering redwoods. East is lake country and west is the ocean. Much of the terrain is only for serious backwoods people with boots and canoes and four-wheel-drive vehicles. But the state-owned forests and beaches are various and accessible to the more casual traveller: for me there was at least one sunny November afternoon on a great sandbar at the mouth of a small stream called Russian Gulch, on one side the surf and rocks, on the other a shallow sandy stream in which the silver birch and California oak trailed their branches.

Highway One runs out of San Francisco across the Golden Gate Bridge into the villa-spotted hills of Marin County, hot-tub-land, then down into an eerie valley astride the San Andreas Fault. Somewhere in the mantle beneath are the very plates whose friction causes the crust of California to move and quake continuously.

The road marks the boundary of the Point Reyes National Seashore, a peninsula out of geological time and place that has lumbered over the aeons from its

original site off present-day Los Angeles. It is a mysterious territory with sudden micro-climates, racing tides, desert fauna and English chalk cliffs thrown together.

Stopping on the highway is easy, to picnic, to watch the birds or examine the plants and trees. At the Sonoma Coast State Beach, a cliff path leads down to rock-pools. Huge Pacific gulls watch as you poke among the starfish, urchins, sea cucumbers and kelp.

It is an empty coast and settlements are spread out. Bodega Bay, the location of John Carpenter's creepy film, *The Fog*, is a small port with fish restaurants on the quay; Mendocino is rather precious, a little town of clapboard Victorian dwellings in the New England style.

Fort Bragg is preferable, with its smell of pine sap and the rumble of saws in its timber yards. Its harbour is down in the canyon where the Noyo River enters the ocean - a deep clear stream on which the branches brought down from the mountains battle with the frosts of kelp drawn in with the tide.

On the Noyo River little fishing boats ride at anchor. They bring in deep-sea fish and take out visitors

The redwoods form a triumphal arch into the hills beyond

in February and March to see the procession of grey whales up the California coast from their breeding grounds off Mexico.

From Mendocino the road back to Ukiah runs along the broad bottom of the Navarro River where the redwoods form a triumphal arch into the hills. Here the woods soon give way to meadowland and beyond that, climbing up the valley sides, the russet leaves of late wines. This is Anderson Valley, one of the newest and most northerly of California's wine-producing areas.

The fields round Boonville glowed in autumnal colours and the roadside fruit stands offered, even in November, fresh-picked apples and pumpkin. But you are warned to stay on the road round these parts and do your up-country exploring in the state parks. For Anderson Valley and out-of-the-way spots like it are in the "Emerald Triangle" where pot-growing is a \$2.5 billion a year industry. Growers tend to shoot first before discovering that the botanically ignorant can easily confuse marijuana-sinsemilla with hollyhock.

David Walker

On the beaches seals and sea lions roll in the spume of the surf

for European and Mediterranean civilization. The treasures, though, are real enough and nothing was left to chance. As a smart-suited guide explained, the Gothic and Renaissance tapestries inside the mansion fitted the walls so perfectly because the walls were constructed to fit the tapestries.

We saw, too, some of the publishing millionaire's juddering home movies, fading images of Clarke Gable, Carole Lombard and Charlie Chaplin cavouring in the sun-burnt grounds and heard the story of one starlet who refused a visit to such a remote place in case she was attacked by Indians. Finally persuaded, she arrived at the main gate at night to be surrounded by Hearst's staff on horseback and dressed as Apaches, sent down to frighten the pompous wit out of her.

Hearst started building in 1919 on one of the lushest, greenest ranges of hills on that stretch of the coast. As a fantasy it predates Disneyland by a good 30 years. Hearst Castle was presented to the State of California in 1958, seven years after his death, and now tens of thousands of visitors eagerly pay \$8 for a conducted tour, to

Continental Motoring Breaks

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SHOPPING

A crafty gleam in the eye

Silversmith Sarah Jones dived into the lion's den this week when she opened a new shop at 12 Piccadilly Arcade, London W1 (01-499 8415). Having progressed from Camden Lock 10 years ago to Basinghall Street in the City in 1980, she now feels ready to take on the challenge of an area that is studded with starry jewellers.

She will still be selling her much-admired silver and enamel miniature flowers - the newest are pale blue and pink crane's bill, each £310.50 - and she has created a caviar spoon with a surgeon-shaped handle for the new shop at £115. ("There are

A wealth of top quality work is discovered by Beryl Downing

lots of caviar dishes but no spoons to go with them.") There is also a good selection of charming christening presents, including a duck-handled boiler, 2 1/2 in high, £207; Mole, Toad and Ratty, 1 1/2 in high, £138. Smaller items start at £11.50.

Pockets are no longer the only place for beautiful old watches. You can now have an 18th-century-style stand to show them off. Mike Fitz is a specialist wood turner and will make the stand shown in rosewood, paduk, English yew or walnut. With 22ct gold-plated bolsters, feet and hook it costs £38, without gold trimmings £28. Available from Mike Fitz Designs, 37 Meadway, Harpenden, Hertfordshire (05827 62231).

If embroidery and tapestry is your craft, your work could benefit from being professionally displayed. Christopher Wright of Printed Page, 2-3 Bridge Street, Winchester, Hampshire (0692 54072), has framed most things from a blank cheque for a local bingo association to a 15th tapestry made at the beginning of the century. Choose from 200 wooden and 100 aluminium frames. The service takes two weeks and costs between £5 and £60 according to size. The components are also for sale if you want to frame it yourself.

John Makepeace has been leading his Parnham furniture students through the wood for

10 successful years and an exhibition of his and their work will be on show at the National Theatre until August 23. It also includes plans for a new School for Woodland Industry which will open next year to teach the use of Britain's forest resources.

Several of Makepeace's own designs are on show including the cabinet shown, a one-off made by Alan Amey in 1983. Similar pieces to commission would be from £7,000. Less expensive pieces for sale at the exhibition include walking sticks, hand mirrors, book ends and clocks from £25.

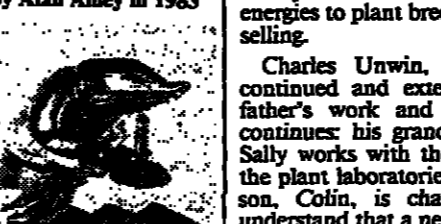
If you are travelling further afield to the Lake District, try to take in the Craft North exhibition at The Tithebarn, Old Windebrow, Brundholme Road, Keswick. There is a particular emphasis on furniture this year with some interesting pieces by Terence Alexander, including a circular folding table which opens to a figure of eight, £750. Smaller pieces include wood-turned vases and boxes by Maurice Mullens and attractive silver jewellery by Richard Curtis, inlaid with perspex, wood or ivory. Prices for earrings, pendants, the pins and cuff links are from £10 to £50. The exhibition is open Monday to Saturday 10.30am to 5.30pm, Sunday 11am to 5pm until August 30.

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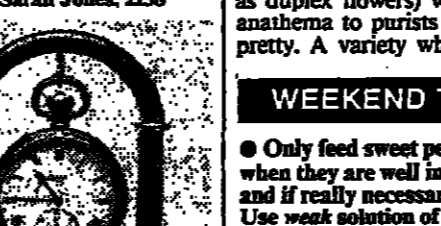
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English yew cabinet designed by John Makepeace and made by Alan Amey in 1983



Mini Moley crafted in silver by Sarah Jones, £38



Hand-turned rosewood watch stand by Mike Fitz, £38

IN THE GARDEN

All sweetness and light

Sweet peas are in the blood of the Unwin family. Their passion for the species *Lathyrus odorata* spans four generations - since 1901, in fact, when William Unwin (a grower of cut flowers for Covent Garden market) discovered a bold new pink sweet pea.

The bloom was not only larger but the standard - the upright back petal - had a distinctly wavy edge. William named it Gladys Unwin for his eldest daughter and began the lineage. He started the seed firm which still bears the family name and devoted his energies to plant breeding and selling.

Charles Unwin, his son, continued and extended his father's work and the line continues: his granddaughter Sally works with the firm in the plant laboratories and his son, Colin, is chairman. I understand that a new variety to be announced for next year will be named... Colin Unwin. His father raised this new red sweet pea as the best he had encountered - a fine parting gift.

Charles Unwin liked varieties which have a tendency to produce an extra petal (known as duplex flowers) which are anathema to purists but very pretty. A variety which does

this to perfection is Champagne Bubbles, a wonderful froth of palest pink. Another, Gypsy Rose, is a cerise beauty. Rather to my surprise I was drawn to a trial group of sweet-smelling blooms where the pale base colour of the petals was veined and outlined in a darker shade. This form is known unromantically as the Unwin stripes.

About half the varieties carried by Unwins are bred in their own laboratories, the rest are bought in. It is good to see that some of the new kinds (including the variety Colin Unwin) are raised by amateur gardeners. They send seed to

Unwins who grow the plants for three years to test the truest to type. Work continues towards improvement and greater distinction with several new varieties introduced each year but the great quest, for a buttercup-yellow sweet pea, has so far proved as elusive as the black tulip.

Francesca Greenoak



Family flower: the Sally Unwin, a rich pink and cream

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WEEKEND TIPS
● Only feed sweet peas when they are well into bloom and if really necessary. Use weak solution of a general purpose liquid fertilizer. Pick flowers continuously - they may stop coming if pods are allowed to form.

● Dead head and tie in climbing and rambler roses.
● Start thinking about spring-flowering bulbs - they need planting this month.
● Sow corn-salad and spinach beet to angust fresh winter greenery.
● Sow Japanese bulb onions.

COWSLIPS
Primula Veris
The true wild golden yellow cowslip (grown from seed) for planting 1988 to flower spring of 1991. Enjoy these wonderful primulas in your own garden and help to preserve our wild flower heritage.

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OUT AND ABOUT

Home of the novel Gothic

Nigel Andrew explores the Victorian fantasies of Knebworth House, ancestral home of the Lytton family

There is an easy way to visit Knebworth House, and there is a hard way. The easy option is to take the Knebworth exit from the A1(M) at Stevenage.

It is much more adventurous to take the train, then walk through Old Knebworth, and take the house unawares in a sudden flanking movement.

As well you might. It is an amazing building - from the outside, an exuberant Victorian fantasy of everything a grand medieval house ought to be.

The gardens are also great fun - partly formal and partly "wilderness" with woods and ponds. There is a lovely little herb garden designed by Gertrude Jekyll.

Edward Bulwer-Lytton: house was his Victorian dream-castle

But back to the house. Inside it is the most remarkable extravaganza of history and pseudo-history - a genuinely medieval house, in fact, but "done over" several times.

The house has always been in the Lytton family, and it was the once-famous novelist Edward Bulwer-Lytton, best known for his best-selling blockbuster *The Last Days of Pompeii*, who finally transformed it into his Victorian dream-castle.

The great Banqueting Hall was once buried in Victoriana, but is now restored to its 17th-century essentials. Everything is done in wood - now beautifully aged - and an elaborately carved screen and minstrel's gallery give an authentic medieval atmosphere.

There is no getting away from old Bulwer-Lytton at Knebworth. His study is as he left it, complete with the enormous "chibbook" pipe he enjoyed smoking - and even a couple of skulls from Pompeii.

The rooms of Knebworth make a nice potted history of four centuries of interior design.

Knebworth House is full of reminders of other Lyttons, past and present - from the Elizabeth Lytton Bulwer who



An exuberant Victorian fantasy of everything a medieval house should be: the impressive exterior of Knebworth House

demolished three wings of the house to save the rest and left behind a recipe for "Sirrup of Snails" (possibly a cough medicine), to the 1st Earl of Lytton, who was Viceroy of India, and the 2nd, who married the great beauty Pamela Plowden.

The house is now owned by the Hon David Lytton Cobbold, who lives there with his family, and works wonders to keep the place going - even to the extent of holding huge open-air pop concerts in the grounds. But Knebworth deserves to be known for itself, rather than as a place where the Rolling Stones once played.

Knebworth House is open Tues-Sun until Sept 14, and on Sept 21 and 28. Park open 11am-5.30pm, house and gardens noon-5pm.

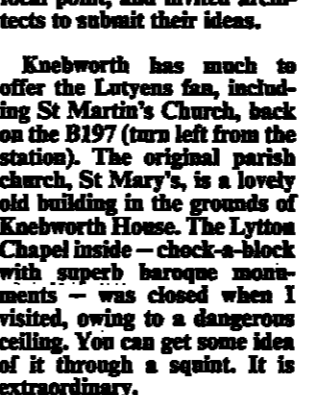
Old village awaits its new green

The approach to Knebworth House snakes a good two-pub stroll of about 1 1/2 miles. You can start right opposite the station at a modernized "family pub", the Station Hotel, which has a well-equipped garden, a family conservatory and a very decent, cheap menu.

After suitable refreshment, bear right from the station and walk through the long, straggling village of Old Knebworth, past several picturesque cottages, fields and woods, until you come to a fork in the road.

Just next to the pub there will soon be a new village green, surrounded by houses carefully designed to look as though they've always been there.

St Mary's, in the house grounds, is the original parish church



WEEKEND WALK. All cornfields and rolling wooded hills, the Darent Valley is still unmistakably Samuel Palmer country. For a round-trip sampler, start by Shoreham church (well worth a look). Keep to the wide path through the fields, though it will eventually steer you back on to the main road for a short stretch.

EATING OUT

Points of style for designer dining Jonathan Meades finds a refreshing oasis in a desert of nothingness

"Le style est l'homme même", in other words it's his essence, his fingerprint, the manifestation of his uniqueness.

It signifies off-the-peg quirks and mannerisms out of a can. It has absolutely nothing to do with essence, with the revelation of self.

The vast majority of restaurants which serve the denizens of this post-literate world are just another medium for the transmission of designer-nothingness.

The important things are these: the tab should be out of all proportion to the meal; the waiters should look like Jean Gabin playing a waiter in a "stylish" 1930s or 1940s; the punters should be either

The food is gutsy and generous

incredibly famous (have had their photo in *The Face*, have sung backing vocals with The Jesus and Mary Chain) or fairly famous (have "written" for *The Face*, humped amps for The Jesus and Mary Chain).

This neat and tidy formula is complicated by a place like Orsa. The place is certainly one of recondite make-believe: it pretends to be a timeless (1950s, say) basement in Milan or Turin.

Orsa, 27 Wellington Street, London WC2 (01-240 5266). Open Mon-Sat, noon-midnight.



Francis Mosley

GUEST COOK

Impromptu invitations for simple meals

Over the next three weeks notable chefs will describe what they like to cook off duty. The series is opened by ROBIN and MARION JONES, whose restaurant, Croque-en-Bouche in Malvern Wells, is the smallest to boast a Michelin rosette

Masochistic though it may seem, sometimes at the end of a really busy "slog" in the restaurant, one of us will say "Why don't we invite the so-and-so's round for a meal?" - and we do.

At home, we like to serve simple food which does not involve dashing into the kitchen every few minutes - preparation ahead being the key. We cook and serve together rather than following our professional roles of cook and waiter.

We prefer a number of small courses, starting usually with a tureen of soup. At a recent dinner for eight this was a lettuce, pea and savory soup, light and summery. It's a favourite, and we used the first of our mangetout from the garden as a garnish.

Some cold anti-pasti followed: mushrooms sautéed in oil with ground coriander seed, seasoned, with lemon juice and coriander leaves; garden courgettes with red pigment and onion as a sort of ratatouille; and green fagoleto beans, with Florence fennel in a mustard vinaigrette.

This meal was a good occasion to experiment with a "parsley-shadow" pasta

sauced with salmon, tomato and lots of green and purple basil.

The next course was a selection of grilled meats: small steaks of beef fillet, calves' liver and pork loin (marinated in Hoi Sin, garlic and soy), with some spicy Algerian-style merguez sausages, cooked quickly on a cast-iron Le Creuset grill.

The cast-list for the home-grown salad included red lettuce, endives, mesclun and rocket, with sorrel, chervil, nasturtium and garlic-chives; not forgetting the marvellously frilly Red Lollo, named after Gina Lollobrigida! The salad was dressed with extra vergine olive oil.

A taste of cheese, including the Double Berkeley from nearby Dymock, was followed by a summer pudding of local raspberries, blackcurrants, cherries and gooseberries. We aim for minimum bread and maximum fruit, and stick in a generous dollop of Crème de Cassis liqueur. This was the first of the summer, and the best.



Pick of the bunch: Marion and Robin Jones in their garden

Lettuce, pea and summer savory soup Serves eight 35g (1 1/2oz) unsalted butter 2 large Webbs lettuce, washed and roughly shredded 1 bunch spring onions, chopped 1 clove garlic, chopped 1 tablespoon flour 1.35kg (3lb) fresh peas 2 sprigs summer savory and 2 sage leaves, tied 1.2 litres (2 pints) ham stock A little cream, a few mangetout peas and extra summer savory for garnish

Shell peas. Melt butter in large saucepan and soften spring onions and garlic without browning. Put ham stock in another saucepan and bring to boil; add peas and herbs; cook for a further three minutes. Meanwhile, add lettuce to spring onions and garlic; stir until cooked down. Add a little black pepper. Pour peas and liquid over lettuce mixture, bring to boil and remove from heat. Liquidize soup and pass through a mouli-legumes. To serve, heat gently, thinning down and adjusting seasoning as necessary. Garnish with cream, tiny raw mangetout peas and chopped summer savory.

"Parsley-Shadow" tagliatelle with salmon and basil Serves six 3 large eggs 1 teaspoon salt 1 tablespoon olive oil Approx 285g (10oz) semolina flour, or strong white bread flour Small bunch of flat-leaved parsley For the sauce 1/2 Spanish onion, chopped 1 clove of garlic, chopped 450g (1lb) large ripe tomatoes, peeled and chopped 1 teaspoon tomato purée 2 tablespoons olive oil 150ml (1/4 pint) dry white wine 2 tablespoons fish stock (optional)

Finally, use the cutting roller to make 1/4-inch tagliatelle. Imitate by hand and rolling pin if you do not have a pasta machine. The parsley will give a pretty green pattern to the pasta. Leave to dry for an hour or so.

Sauté the onion and garlic in one tablespoon oil until tender. Add the tomato for a minute and then the purée, fish stock and wine. Season with salt and pepper. Simmer for three minutes and put to one side.

Bring a large saucepan of salted water with one tablespoon of the oil to the boil. Add the pasta and cook for 1 1/2 minutes until just tender. Wash away the excess starch under hot water. Drain, and toss in the rest of the oil over heat in the saucepan, adding a little black pepper. Arrange round a large serving plate and keep warm in a low oven.

Meanwhile, season the salmon and sauté quickly in the butter for one minute. Add the sauce and simmer for one minute. Then quickly chop the basil. Pour the salmon and sauce into the middle of the pasta; sprinkle on a thick layer of cheese and basil. Turn all together at the table.

DRINK

Perfection behind the packaging

"Never judge a book by its cover" was one of those silly truisms that we all had to learn in the classroom but how pertinent it is to wine and wine labels.

Garish, lurid labels are often wrapped around some of the best bottles. It was therefore with an open mind that I approached Alsace Marté, a Zind Humbrecht Alsace wine whose red and green bacchanalian cartoon label is an excellent example of French kitsch at its best.

Choosing red wines for August, our traditional holiday month, is rather more difficult than selecting whites. Lightly chilled Beaujolais is the obvious choice but while the splendid 1985 crus Beaujolais are still on everyone's lists it is silly not to buy. But do not expect these wines to be cheap: even supermarket Beaujolais is now almost £5.



The Pavilion Wine Company again have an excellent

'85 Chiroubles, Domaine du Clos Verdy from Georges Boulon. Its brilliant crimson-purple colour and vibrant raspberry and currant-like fruit is a fine example of this, the lightest of the nine Beaujolais crus. (£67.51 a case including delivery or £5.62 a bottle.)

With the weak pound and increased European wine prices, the UK wine trade is having a difficult year and that must be one reason why so many wine merchants are running special summer sales.

The Hungerford Wine Company also have dozens of different clarets on offer. Write to them at 128 High Street, Hungerford, Berkshire for their sale list.

Another good cut-price champagne offer this month comes from The Champagne House at 15 Dawson Place, London W2. They are selling three different Blanc de Blancs champagnes at specially reduced prices until next Friday.

My favourite amongst the trio is Albert Le Brun's Blanc de Blancs, whose smoky bouquet and rich, gutsy taste is a revelation. It comes at £9.98 a bottle instead of £10.94. Jane MacQuitty

Majestic Wine Warehouses. 1985 Clarets. A great vintage. Opening Offer. A small selection of our fast dwindling stocks... Chateau Troplong-Mondot, St Emilion £75.00 Chateau La Croix-de-Gay, Pomerol £100.00 Chateau Grand Puy Lacoste, Pauillac £140.00 Chateau Palmer, Margaux £240.00 Chateau Margaux, Margaux £480.00

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LONDON FESTIVAL HALL - Royal Festival Hall, South Bank Centre, London SE1 8XX. 7.30pm. £10. Includes a concert by the London Philharmonic Orchestra.

POPULAR CLASSICS - Royal Festival Hall, South Bank Centre, London SE1 8XX. 7.30pm. £10. Includes a concert by the London Philharmonic Orchestra.

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

STRING QUARTETS OF THE 20th CENTURY - Queen Elizabeth Hall, London SW3 4DP. 7.30pm. £10. Includes works by Beethoven, Brahms, and Schubert.

LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA - Queen Elizabeth Hall, London SW3 4DP. 7.30pm. £10. Includes a concert by the London Symphony Orchestra.

POPULAR CLASSICS - Queen Elizabeth Hall, London SW3 4DP. 7.30pm. £10. Includes a concert by the London Symphony Orchestra.

TOM MERRIFIELD EXHIBITION - Royal Festival Hall, London SE1 8XX. 11am-6pm. Free. Includes a collection of paintings by Tom Merrifield.

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

RAYMOND GUBBAY presents **TOMORROW AT 7.30 p.m.**

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

ALAN BRIND VIOLIN

RAYMOND GUBBAY presents **SUNDAY 17 AUGUST AT 7.30 p.m.**

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VLADIMIR SPIVAKOV director/violin

Mozart: "Eine Kleine Nachtmusik" Bach: "Violin Concerto in D minor" Vivaldi: "The Four Seasons"

VICTOR HOGCHAUSER presents at the ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL **SUNDAY 10th AUGUST AT 7.30**

POPULAR CLASSICS

ROYAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Soloist: ANDREW HAIGE

VICTOR HOGCHAUSER and the South Bank Band present at the ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL **FRIDAY 22nd AUGUST AT 7.30**

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PROMS 86

18 July - 13 September

Royal Albert Hall

TONIGHT 7.30 BOURNEMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

TOMORROW 7.30 BOURNEMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

MONDAY 4 AUGUST 7.30 CITY OF LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

TUESDAY 5 AUGUST 7.30 THE ENGLISH CHORUS AND ORCHESTRA

WEDNESDAY 6 AUGUST 7.30 NATIONAL YOUTH ORCHESTRA

THURSDAY 7 AUGUST 7.30 PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

FRIDAY 8 AUGUST 7.30 PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

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ACADEMY OF ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS

Tomorrow 3 August 7.30pm

Classical records

REVIEW

Union of volatile emotions

Opera: Le nozze di Figaro... Philips 418 0-2 (3 CDs; also black disc and cassette)

Neville Marriner's operatic repertory is as yet limited - and may it multiply - but he is well acquainted with the Almavivas and the Figaros.

Jose van Dam in the title role, once sang on the Karajan set in the early seventies, starts as a contented man, even a mild one, before venting his anger on others.

Ruggero Raimondi's Count is equally volatile: suave itself when he wants to be persuasive as in the wooing of Susanna or in that final 'Perdona' which even the most affronted Countess could not resist.

Mischief that sets fire to the senses

Chopin: Waltzes, etc. EMI CMC 7473902... Debussy: Preludes, Books 1 and 2... Liszt: Missa Solennis...

Ever since his death of leukaemia in 1950 at the age of 33, Dinu Lipatti has been a name spoken quietly, loyally, and with awe.

Even the sibilant rustle in the background of the Barcarolle and the Op 27 No 2 Nocturne is wiped out by the ear as it focuses on the sheer momentum generated by a velocity of imagination equal to that of the fingertips.



Romantic note: encounter in the garden, from the cover of Philips's new digital recording of Le nozze di Figaro

"Non so piu" or in "Voi che sapete" where, as he tells us himself, he is all a-tremble ("Io sono si tremante").

celebrating the 200th anniversary of that first performance in the Burgtheater. Places must remain on the shelf for Giulini, Böhm and Davis, but for those who want the present-day team in first class sound, Marriner is the choice.

EMI too have been probing into the Scala archive and their latest CD transfer is Puccini's Manon Lescau (CDS 7 473938, 2 CDs). It is a one-woman set, but since that woman is Callas enthusiasts will need no further recommendation.

John Higgins

Spirituality shines through the style

Bach: Mass in B Minor... Purcell: Dido and Aeneas... Handel: Messiah...

Sir Neville Marriner's B Minor Mass, was recorded in 1977, and now reappears on compact disc after a miniature flurry of rival, digitally-recorded period-style performances.

Despite the experiments and advances these represent, this release, which sounds marvellous in its new, digitally spruced-up format, can still hold its own.



At her glorious peak in Bach's B Minor Mass: Janet Baker

solists, as indeed is Gardiner's. Here the problem is not one of vocal quality and power but rather one of style. Robert Tear's "Benedictus" is woefully pedestrian, and there are far too many gratuitous swoops, while Samuel Ramey's "Quoniam Tu solus Sanctus" sounds equally wooden.

But these are small prices to pay for a reading that is otherwise vigorous. All the other obligatos are well done, while the Chorus of the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Field sings crisply and accurately.

One advantage of the present version, however, is Thomas Allen's Aeneas. No fool, this, but a thinking, sensitive person simply caught in confusing circumstances.

Stephen Pettitt

Western bid for maturity

FILMS ON TV

"He was the man who rode into our little valley out of the heart of the great glowing West and when his work was done rode back whence he had come and he was Shane."

That is the closing sentence of Jack Schaefer's classic story, which in 1953 became even better known as a film and has gone into the history books as one of the half dozen most famous cinema Westerns.

Shane (BBC2, today, 8.40-10.30pm) was made the year after High Noon and they became regarded as peaks of the genre. The Western, it was argued, had finally grown up, no longer the simplistic tale of cowboys and Indians but an adult form which need not be patronized.

But reputations change. Shane is meatier stuff than High Noon, a thinly disguised allegory on the McCarthy witchhunt, and draws its resonance from authentic Western themes.

One is the feud between homesteaders and cartmen, here played out in Wyoming in the 1890s. On the one hand are the folksy Starretts (Jean Arthur, Van Heflin and their son, played by the 11-year-old



Touching drama: hero Alan Ladd with Brandon de Wilde

Brandon de Wilde). On the other, trying to drive them off their land, are the Rykens, abetted by the deliciously evil hired killer, Jack Palance.

Shane also uses the familiar Western theme of the gun-fighter trying to live down his past, but being drawn back reluctantly into violence. Alan Ladd plays the title role of the mysterious stranger who rides into the valley, befriends the Starretts - a friendship reciprocated both by mother and son - and does what any decent Western hero has to do.

It is a leisurely film, directed by George Stevens with a sometimes ponderous touch. But if his striving for art is sometimes too conscious, it is still an impressive piece, with a quiet grandeur that powerfully enriches the Western myth.

Peter Waymark

RECOMMENDED

The Strawberry Blonde (1941): Charming period comedy with James Cagney as a dentist who falls for Rita Hayworth (Channel 4, today, 2.45-4.35pm).

City Lights (1931): Funny, touching Chaplin story of a tramp and a blind flower girl (BBC2, today, 4.55-6.20pm).

Ordinary People (1979): Robert Redford's sensitive study of a family tragedy (ITV, today, 9.15-11.50pm).

The Treasure of the Sierra Madre (1947): Humphrey Bogart and friends in a frustrated search for gold (BBC2, tomorrow, 10.50pm-1am).

Hamlet (1976): Celestino Coronado's bold and quirky version has Hamlet as a split personality played by two actors (Channel 4, Fri, 11.30pm-12.45am).

*First British television showing

Fighter in a losing battle

TELEVISION

Hazel O'Connor's fiery but flagging singing career mirrored her starring role in Breaking Glass, chronicling the rise and fall of a war-painted rock star.

In Fighting Back (BBC1, Mon, 9.30-10.20pm), she is cast in a Julie Walters role as a mother of two with eyes like lasers who flees a live-in, Russian roulette-playing lover in Liverpool to return to Bristol, scene of a mis-spent childhood.

But instead of being clasped in to the welcoming bosom of her family, Viv is met with slammed doors and the same problems of eking out an inner-city existence, exacerbated by a natural talent for running foul of authority.

Granada celebrates the tenth anniversary of the explosion of punk music and culture with a fine collating of the archives of So It Goes, its late-night rock programme. The Way They Were (Channel 4, Tues, 10-11.30pm) features definitive performances by



No hope: Hazel O'Connor in Fighting Back

Blondie, The Jam, Iggy Pop, Wreckless Eric, Tom Robinson and The Clash.

The music is rough and ready, but there's no stopping the raw energy and aggressive enthusiasm of the gargoyle-like, professionally obnoxious performers. They blow today's video bands off stage.

The Blessed Ones (Channel 4, Thurs, 9.30-11.05pm), is Ingar Bergman's first video production, based on a play by Ulla Isaksson. It makes for an austere wistful-aging drama of paranoid middle-aged love.

Bob Williams

From concert hall to sleepy lagoon

RADIO

He is best known for his radio signature tunes, for In Town Tonight and Music While You Work; for "By the Sleepy Lagoon", which still introduces Desert Island Discs, and his "Dambusters March", which made the hit parade during the 1950s.

But these were only a small sample from the jolly, rousing and evocative pieces penned by Eric Coates, a doctor's son from Nottinghamshire. He was born 100 years ago and radio, which made him a celebrity, appropriately leads the centenary tributes.

Eric Coates - King of Light Music (Radio 2, Tues, 9.55pm) is the first of a four programmes by his son, Austin. It is the story of a precocious musical talent, who made his first concert appearance at the age of 10, resisted parental pressure to become a bank clerk to study

at the Royal Academy of Music. He was good enough to play the viola under Beecham and Henry Wood but his real forte was composing and he made peculiarly his own that distinctive territory between classical and pop.

The lot of the Victorian woman was hardly a fulfilling one, even if she was the wife of the Governor General of India. "It is so provoking to be utterly useless", wrote Charlotte Canning, left to idle at home while husband George slaved at his imperial role.

With little to do but choose the names for dinner parties, Charlotte became obsessed with the dullness of Anglo-Indian society and the discomfort of living amidst cockroaches and mosquitos.

She also had plenty of time to write letters.

These are the basis of Charles Allen's revealing three-part feature, A Glimpse of the Burning Plain, which starts on Radio 4 tomorrow (10.15-11pm). Many of the letters were written to Queen Victoria, who sometimes replied. Charlotte is played by Claire Bloom and Victoria by Prunella Scales.

A woman who did make it in a man's world was Ivy Benson. In Lady Be Good (Radio 2, Wed, 10.30-11pm) she tells the story of her pioneering all-girls band in a programme presented by one of her former trombonists, now radio disc jockey, Sheila Tracy.

P.W.

CHESS

Look East, young men

Why have the Japanese managed to embrace computer technology with such enviable speed and starting success? The answer could lie in the fact that their language is pictogrammatic, representing objects and ideas pictorially rather than phonetically.

Britain's record in the use of computers is dismal by comparison. By late 1984, 98 per cent of our schools had a micro-computer. Yet stories of machines lying idle, or being used inadequately, are legion and fears are growing that by the 21st century Britain will not have the necessary business and industrial skills for success.

How are we to catch up? We can do nothing, of course, about our language, but we can foster areas of pattern recognition in which we already excel. One of the most obvious is chess. In 1984 the English team took the silver medals at the Chess Olympiad and with no less than 10 Grandmasters the UK is now posing a threat to the Soviet Union's domination of world chess. By teaching the game in

CHESS

Chess could help us to rival the industrial success of Japan, says Raymond Keene

our schools we could provide an early and digestible introduction to the abilities needed for computing. A flourishing branch of computer science is concerned with programming machines to play chess to the same level as the best human beings. Practice with game-playing machines is a relatively easy way of introducing children to computers, as an experiment conducted at the 1981 Scyfs Brighton Chess Tournament revealed.

A group of children aged between 10 and 12 were instructed in the use of chess-playing micro-computers. Within half an hour they had all fully mastered the functions of the machines. The following game illustrates the power of Hitech, the world's strongest chess playing computer program. In a two-day match played in London on June 17-18 it defeated Dr

Jana Miles, the English International Woman Grandmaster, by 2-0 - the first time a computer had beaten a Grandmaster under standard tournament conditions. White: Hitech (Computer). Black: Jana Miles. Caro-Kann Defence.

Black resigns.

BRIDGE

Art of the slippery Pole

Poland's emergence as a leading bridge power has been one of the features of the last decade. In the early 1970s, the Polish team would invariably start well but fade in the closing stages of a championship. However, they broke the ice with a win in the 1978 Rosenblum Cup, and strolled away with the European Championship in 1981.

Yet Poland's notable improvement in teams of four competition is overshadowed by outstanding achievement in International Pairs events, where the method of scoring seems especially suited to their approach to the game.

Piotr Gawrys is one of several talented young Polish players. In the Royal Viking player of the year competition, he suggests that many players mistakenly consider the opening lead merely as a matter of "putting the ball in play". He rightly argues that with a little foresight the opening lead can create for the declarer a false and enduring impression of the defender's hand. He cites this example when he was West defending against a celebrated French international in the 1982 World Pairs Championship.

East-West game. Dealer South. This was the seven card ending:

Bridge hand diagram showing cards in spades, hearts, diamonds, and clubs for both North and South.

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1018

Prizes of the New Collins Thesaurus will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, August 7, 1986. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, August 9, 1986.

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes solutions for previous puzzles.

MENTAL

PLACE YOUR PERSONAL COLUMN ADVERTISEMENT IN THE TIMES

THE WEEK AHEAD



BOOKS PART THREE: Nicholas Mosley in his new novel, Judith (Secker and Warburg, £9.95pm), charts a woman's search for identity from an Indian ashram to a peace protest at an American airbase. The book is the third in a sequence begun with Imago Bird and Serpent.



GALLERIES NORTH STARS: Sir Henry Raeburn's portrait of Isabella Mleod, painted around 1738, is one of the highlights in a major exhibition, "Painting in Scotland: The Golden Age", at the Talbot Rice Art Centre, South Bridge, Edinburgh (031 667 1011) from Fri.



TELEVISION DRUMBEAT: Colin Blakely and Rowena Cooper play a middle-aged white couple trying to come to terms with the black regime in Zimbabwe in Drums Along Balmoral Drive, a new play by Douglas Livingstone. BBC2, Wednesday, 9.25-10.35pm.



THEATRE CITY LIGHTS: Maureen Lipman leads the Leonard Bernstein musical, Wonderful Town! Set in the 1930s, it is the story of two country girls from Ohio trying their luck in the big city of New York. Queen's Theatre (01-734 1166), opens Thursday after previews.



ROCK FOLK ROOTS: Richard Thompson joins Ian Matthews and other former colleagues in Fairport Convention for the annual reunion of that pioneering British folk-rock group. Half Moon, 93 Lower Richmond Road, London SW15 (01-788 2387). Sun to Wed.



CONCERTS MUSIC MAN: Sir Neville Martin is the artistic director of Summer in the City, a festival of 18 concerts in eight days. It opens tomorrow with Sir Neville conducting the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields in Haydn's Creation. Barbican Centre (01-626 8795).

Mhairi McKenzie-Robinson is a power behind the zany and more unpredictable scenes at the Edinburgh Festival

Flurry with the Fringe as tops

In just a few days' time Edinburgh will be transformed. On every wall will be a poster, on every pavement inch a person, in every school hall a performance and in every bar a pseudocorner as the 40th Edinburgh Festival Fringe erupts over the city. For three weeks, as the official Edinburgh Festival proceeds more staidly, hundreds of Fringe groups will display their artistic wares, the truly famous alongside the truly infamous - and the truly dreadful - in what has become the most exhilarating and absurd arts festival in the world. Behind the spontaneity that is synonymous with the Fringe, however, lies an immense feat of co-ordination, the responsibility this year of a tall, slight, but indefatigable 26-year-old - Mhairi McKenzie-Robinson, the first woman Fringe administrator.

trying to stay in London during the Festival Fringe. "But I couldn't stay away. By the time it got to July I thought, this is crazy, I can't bear not to be in Scotland - so I came back." Once back she stayed, becoming full-time assistant to her predecessor, Michael Dale, in 1982 and administrator herself at the end of last year. Born and bred in Edinburgh, her working association with the Fringe goes back much further - to 1977, the summer before she started a psychology degree at Durham. Then, as a "stropky 17-year-old", she was given a part-time job by administrator Alistair Moffat. "Part-time job" proved something of a euphemism. "He said, 'Look, here's a desk, here's the phone, here's a pile of envelopes, I'm going out', and just left me. Brilliant!"

some 500 groups will present more than 900 shows. "It's doubled since I have been here. It's quite incredible," says Mhairi, restoring a pink hair grip, which she had been using for emphasis, to its rightful place. In principle anybody can join in - and anybody and everybody does. Mhairi cites the case of one enterprising soul who came two years ago as a spectator and was so enthralled by the whole atmosphere that he is back this year as a performer. He may go far. At the back of every Fringe performer's mind is the dream of "being discovered" and the roll-call of early performers on the Fringe includes names like Derek Jacobi, Jonathan Miller (now Fringe chairman), Tom Stoppard, Rowan Atkinson (back in Edinburgh this year), and Julie Covington. But he may sink like a stone. As the Fringe continues to grow, it is amidst muttered criticisms: that it has become too professional and is seen only as a springboard to television; or that the administrator should exercise artistic control, or at least place a



Keeping posted: Mhairi McKenzie-Robinson - 'the Fringe is completely open. It gives people the chance to do anything'

ceiling on the number of participants. On this subject Mhairi is more than usually emphatic and the pink hair grip comes back into play. "I think it would be absolutely wrong to try and impose any guidelines on the Fringe because its greatest strength is that it is completely open. There is nowhere else like it in the world. It gives people the chance to experiment, to become famous, to sink - to do

anything. We simply couldn't have an artistic director on the Fringe - not if it's to stay the same sort of size and maintain its inventiveness." It is the unpredictable and the topical that make each Fringe unique. "Certain festivals are always remembered for certain kinds of shows. This year there are shows about terrorists and hooliganism, and plays relating to unemployment and Aids. What we see here from year to

year reflects what is happening in the world." Meanwhile, she remains trapped inside the box-office by a constant stream of idiosyncratic requests from performers and public alike. And while she may not have designs on the direction the Fringe should take, she has definite ideas on where the box-office and the Fringe Society should go - several hundred yards up the road to

desperately needed larger premises. "For the last three years my dream has been to see this organization move offices. I would like to be here when that happens." Sarah Hemming The Fringe runs from Fri to Aug 30. For programme, send 28p in stamps to the Fringe Ticket Office, 170 High Street, Edinburgh EH1 1GS (031 226 5257).

ARTS DIARY

Backstage backbiting

The bloody battle of Glynedebourne triggered by Sir Peter Hall's refusal to film this year's season for the BBC, and thereby losing musicians and technicians considerable sums, has found another victim - Hall's wife Maria Ewing. Miss Ewing, due to sing her farewell performance in L'incoronazione di Poppea this evening, has missed several performances. She has had a painful attack of shingles but, according to sources at Glynedebourne, has also been suffering from painful attacks from the backstage crews who blame her for her husband's decision not to televise the season. The bitter atmosphere has not helped her recovery, although Miss Ewing's agents say she has not been moved by the criticism.

Radical cheek

They may fancy they're radical, but bosses of the Institute of Contemporary Arts hold no magic for the wage slaves who tend the bar and sweep the floors - traditionally out-of-work artists who have often been promised an exhibition of their work. It has never materialized. "All we want to do is show our work, but the ICA isn't contemporary enough to show it", says sculptor Sue Morris. So an alternative ICA exhibition - itself a contradiction in terms has been arranged in Islington starting next week.

With the National Portrait Gallery taking her seriously enough to accept a handful of her pictures, Koo Stark has finally come of age as a photographer and past her past behind her. Or has she? A set of her pictures adorn the West End theatre where the musical Steppen' Out is playing. The theatre's called The Duke of York's.

Just for laughs

Following the premature death in the West End of The Entertainer last weekend, the Shaftesbury Theatre has decided to change its name. It will now call itself the Shaftesbury Theatre of Comedy, just in case there is any doubt as to what it'll be serving up. The



Shaftesbury, at the fashionable end of London's theatre district, is to revive the Ben Travers comedy Rookery Nook, first seen in 1926, with Tom Courtenay and Lionel Jeffries leading an all-star cast. It opens next month.

Body blows

Watership Down author Richard Adams is at the centre of a row between his publishers, Sidgwick and Jackson, and the trade journal, The Bookseller. Adams's new book, Te Turi, is a poem based on a South Sea legend. It contains a few scenes of temptation, which have been admirably illustrated by the artist Ul de Rio. Sidgwick describe these as "slightly on the erotic side" but The Bookseller's Louis Baum was appalled when asked to carry an advertising insert featuring the drawings. Baum agrees the advert went thrown out on grounds of taste: "It was just wrong for The Bookseller". Sidgwick claim it was an inadvertent illustration of a couple, or, cuddling up. "We are shocked, horrified and amazed", they told me as they shifted their lucrative advertising to Publishing News. Christopher Wilson

BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (01-278 8916; info: 01-278 0855). ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA: General public booking opens Mon for autumn season. ENO, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-836 3161). MICHAEL CLARK: Opens Sadler's Wells autumn dance season, Sept 17-27.

LAST CHANCE TOKYO BALLET: Personal and phone bookings for this week for company's first visit, Sept 1-6. Royal Opera House, London WC2 (01-240 1066/1911).

CAMBRIDGE FESTIVAL: Ends this weekend with concerts in King's College and St John's College. Chapels, plays, exhibitions and circus burlesque show. Kett House, Station Road, Cambridge (0223 357851).

TIMES CHOICE

CONCERTS ALL TCHAIKOVSKY: Fraser Goulding conducts the London Concert Orchestra in Marche Slave, Nutcracker, 1812, Capriccio Italian, and Malcolm Binns solos in Piano Concerto No 1. Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-828 3191, credit cards 01-828 8800). Tomorrow, 7.30pm. THE WINNER: Alan Brind, winner of the BBC Musician of the Year competition, solos in Bruch's Violin Concerto No 1, while Nicholas Cleobury conducts the RPO in Schubert's "Unfinished" and Dvorak's "New World" symphonies. Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-828 8795, credit cards 01-838 8891). Mon, 7.45pm. LA MER: The National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain play Debussy's La Mer and Messiaen's exotic Rurancilla Symphonie. Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 (01-589 8212). Wed, 7pm. MAINFRED: Edward Downes conducts the BBC Philharmonic in Tchaikovsky's "Manfred" Symphony and Shostakovich's Michelangelo. Albert Hall, Thurs, 7.30pm.

FILMS OPENINGS YELLOW EARTH (PG): A Chinese story of family and patriotic duty, set in the late 1930s, filmed with great simplicity and power by Chen Kaige. A star of last year's film festival, and winner of the 1985 BFI Award. ICA Cinema (01-930 3647). From Fri. SURVIVORS, THE BLUES TODAY (PG): Documentary record of a weekend blues festival in St Paul, Minnesota. Cannon Charing Cross Road (01-437 4815). From Fri.

NOT THE RSC FESTIVAL: Second season of performances, workshops, debates etc by members of the RSC Barbican company, in an unofficial capacity. This week's programme includes Kurt Weill's first American musical, Johnny Johnson (Wed, 11pm) and Carol Ann Duffy's confrontation between women peace protesters and a missile base guard, Little Women, Big Boys (Fri, 3pm). Almeida Theatre (01-359 4404). From Tues at lunchtime, evening and late night.

Factory London Sinfonietta. Further performances on Thurs and Aug 9. A new production of Così fan tutte plays on Wed at 7pm. Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191). FROM OPERA: Britten's church parable, Curlew River, performed by Nexus Opera. Wed at 10pm. Royal Albert Hall, London SW1 (01-589 8212 or Ticketmaster 01-379 6433).

PHOTOGRAPHY MASTERPIECES OF THE 20TH CENTURY: A selection from the Gruber Collection which includes Man Ray, Cecil Beaton, and Robert Capa. National Museum of Film and Photography, Prince's View, Bradford (0274 727488).

OUT OF TOWN EDINBURGH: The Festival Fringe opens officially on Fri. Details from the Fringe Office, 170 High Street, Edinburgh EH1 (031 226 5257). GUILDFOOT: Rookery Nook: Theatre of Comedy production of the Ben Travers farce, with Tom Courtenay, Peggy Mount, Ian Ogilvy, Lionel Jeffries, Yvonne Arnaud (0463 60191). Opens Tues.

ROCK AND JAZZ ANTI-APARTHEID FESTIVAL: Feargal Sharkey, Lloyd Cole, Latin Quarter, the Pogues and others. Today (from 3 pm), NEC, Birmingham (021 780 4133). Lyric (01-437 3688). MANU DIBANGO: Best known for the disco classic "Soul Makossa". Tonight, Town and Country Club, London NW5 (01-267 3334). BILL BRUFORD QUARTET: The former drummer of Yes and King Crimson teams up with three smart young British jazz musicians, including the keyboardist Django Bates. Tomorrow, Bloomsbury Theatre, London WC1 (01-387 9829).

LONDON FESTIVAL BALLET: Giselle twice today, then a week of Ashton's Romeo and Juliet, Mon-Aug 9. Festival Hall (01-928 3191). BOLSHOI BALLET: The Golden Age today, Mon and Tues, Spartacus on Wed, Thurs, and Raymond on Fri. Covent Garden (01-240 1066). BOLSHOI FILMS: Twice daily until Aug 14. The best this week are Romeo and Juliet (tomorrow at 3pm; Thurs, Fri 7pm) and The Little Humpbacked Horse (Mon, Wed, Fri at 3pm). Barbican Cinema 2 (01-638 8891).

GALLERIES HOUSEWATCH: Extraordinary video art performances where images appear on the windows of buildings. At 83 St Russell Street, London WC1 tonight at 9pm (for information 01-370 3879).

OPERAS BUXTON FESTIVAL: This year's Arthurian theme turns to Handel's Ariadne for the entertainment tonight and Thurs and to Purcell's King Arthur on Wed and Fri. Both at 7.45pm. On Wed, Thurs and Fri at 2.30pm, Richard Blackford's children's opera, Sir Gawain and the Green Knight. Opera House, Buxton, Derbyshire (0298 71010).

OPERA SOUTH BANK OPERA: Harrison Birtwistle's Yan Tan Tethera receives its world premiere on Tues at 7.45pm, presented by Opera

PHOTOGRAPHY MASTERPIECES OF THE 20TH CENTURY: A selection from the Gruber Collection which includes Man Ray, Cecil Beaton, and Robert Capa. National Museum of Film and Photography, Prince's View, Bradford (0274 727488).

THE AMERICAN CLOCK: Arthur Miller's play, set in the Depression. Michael Bryant, Sara Kestelman, Neil Dargish. Cottesloe (01-928-2252). Previews today, Mon, Tues. Opens Wed.

THE GARDEN GIRLS: First full-length play by ex-prisoner Jacqueline Holborough, founder of the Clean Break Theatre Company, is set in a women's open prison and has an all-woman cast. Bush Theatre (01-743-3388). Opens Wed. Press night Fri.

SELECTED FROM TWO WORLDS: Contemporary work by artists of non-European background working in Britain. Whitechapel Art Gallery.

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COURT AND SOCIAL

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PALACE OF HOLYROODHOUSE
August 1: The Prime Minister and Mrs Denis Thatcher left the Palace of Holyroodhouse this morning.

The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, honoured the Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce and Manufacturers with her presence at a luncheon given by the Chamber in their Bicentenary Year, at the Sheraton Hotel, Edinburgh.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness were received by the Chairman of the Chamber (Mr Robert Douglas Miller).

Afterwards the Queen attended the Commonwealth Games Bowling event at Belmont Bowling Club.

The Secretary of State for Scotland (the Right Hon Malcolm Rifkind, MP, Minister-in-Affairs), the Countess of Argyll, Kenneth Scott, Mr Michael Shea and Major Hugh Lindsay were in attendance.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh gave a dinner party at the Palace of Holyroodhouse which the Prince Edward was present.

The following had the honour of being invited: the Secretary of State for Scotland and Mrs Rifkind, Major and Mrs Henry Bewick, the Earl and Countess of Morton, the Hon Alexander Sir Norman and Lady Arthur, Sir Kenneth and Lady Alexander, Professor Sir Patrick and Lady Forrest, Mr and Mrs James Gordon, Mr and Mrs Peter Miller, Mr and Mrs John Gibb, Mr and Mrs Lester Borley, Miss Mary Harrold, Mr and Mrs Thomas Johnston, Mr and Mrs Alistair Lynn, Mr and Mrs Maitland Mackie, Mr and Mrs Donald Miller, Mr and Mrs Robert Watt and Professor and Mrs Peter Wilson.

The Duke of Edinburgh this morning attended the Commonwealth Games Wrestling event at the Playhouse Theatre, Edinburgh and in the afternoon attended the Shooting event at Musselburgh.

The Duke of Edinburgh, President of the International Association of Lighthouse Authorities, this evening visited the Headquarters of the Northern Lighthouse Board, George Street, Edinburgh on the occasion of its Bicentenary.

His Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty Lord Lieutenant of the City of Edinburgh (Dr John McKay, the Right Hon the Lord Provost) and the Chairman of the Board (Sir Frederick O'Brien).

Major Rowan Jackson, RM was in attendance.

The Prince Edward this evening attended the Commonwealth Games - Official

Reception at Parliament Hall, Edinburgh.

Major Hugh Lindsay was in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
August 1: The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips left the Palace of Holyroodhouse this morning.

Her Royal Highness subsequently attended the 2,500th Sheltered House built by the Bield Housing Association at Bannockburn, Stirlingshire.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Stirlingshire (Lieutenant-Colonel James Sling) and the Chairman of the Association (Mr J. Murphy).

Afterwards Her Royal Highness visited Stirling Enterprise Park (Director of Development, Mr D. Gavin) and opened the Second Phase of the development at John Player Building, Stirling.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips then visited the Guildry of Stirling and was admitted as an Honorary Guild Brother.

Her Royal Highness was received by the Dean (Mr L. Hynd).

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, attended by the Hon Mrs Legge-Bourke, later left Royal Air Force Turahouse in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, attended by the Hon Mrs Legge-Bourke, later left Royal Air Force Turahouse in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

Sir John Riddell, Bt, and Mr Rupert Fairfax were in attendance.

The Princess of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Hampshire Regiment, present new Colours to the 1st Battalion at Tidworth, Hampshire today.

Her Royal Highness, attended by Miss Alexandra Loyd and Mrs Alexander Colman, Bria Anderson, travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

KENSINGTON PALACE
August 1: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, as President of The Friends of the Elderly and Gentelfolk's Help, this afternoon visited The Old Vicarage, Moulsoford, Oxfordshire.

Her Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by The Hon Mrs Willis.

The Queen will visit Clydebank on August 9 to mark its centenary.

The Queen will visit Ardmurchan Lighthouse on August 11 to mark the bicentenary of the Northern Lighthouse Board.

Births, Marriages, Deaths and In Memoriam

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MARRIAGES

BINDENBERG & MCKENZIE - On July 26th 1986, at St Paul's Church, Mark only son of Mr and Mrs Robert Bindenberg, 10, St Paul's Church, Chesham, Cheshire to Joyce only daughter of Mr and Mrs J. McKenzie, 10, St Paul's Church, Chesham, Cheshire.

JONES & LEE - On 2nd August, 1986 at St. Swythun's, Hove, Sussex, Roger Jones, son of Mr and Mrs L. Lee, to Kate, with all my love, Roger.

DEATHS

ALCOY - On 26th July, suddenly in Cannes, France, John Alcoy, beloved husband of Susan and loving father of Gavin. Resident in Los Angeles, California. Service at Chichester Cathedral, Whitehall Lane, Apsenhall, Sussex on Wednesday August 6th at 11.00 am. Flowers may be sent to Flat 3, Elmhurst, 19th Street, Great Missenden, Bucks. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Health Centre, 10033 34516.

SCOTT-MONAGHAN - On Tuesday, July 22, 1986, Joseph Robert Scott, aged 55, of Great Sturton, Gloucestershire, died tragically at sea off Portugal. Memorial service to be arranged.

STILES - On Thursday, 31st July after a brave fight in hospital, died peacefully at home, Mrs. Stiles, wife of the late Mr. Stiles, of Moorhouse Lane, Barnstaple, Devon. The funeral and loving burial will be held at Barnstaple Baptist Church, Barnstaple, Devon on Friday, August 1st, at 11.00 am. Burial in the family grave at St. Andrew's Church, Barnstaple, Devon. In lieu of flowers, donations to the British Heart Foundation.

WILSON - On July 30th, suddenly at home, Dore, wife of the late Mr. Wilson, of 10, Dore, Dore, Derbyshire. The funeral will be held at St. Mary's Church, Dore, Derbyshire on Friday, August 1st, at 11.00 am. Burial in the family grave at St. Mary's Church, Dore, Derbyshire. In lieu of flowers, donations to the British Heart Foundation.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

TURNER - A Thanksgiving Service for the life of Geoffrey and Eleanor Turner will be held at St. Mary's Church, Dore, Derbyshire on Friday, 8th August at 10.30 am.

IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE

GOUGH - Victoria Mary, 3rd August 1933. In perpetua luceat lux.

ANNIVERSARIES

WALKER - Whatilaw de Millwode, on Aug 2, 1941 at St. Mark's, Brixton, London. Burial at Brixton Cemetery (Dix) to Ursula Eleanor Luemstra (Dix). Tel: 07740 2494.

Mysterries beyond reason

John Cole

In a culture devoted to material prosperity and dominated by rational technology, both highly desirable achievements, the contemplative wisdom of the mystic tends to be neglected, and even distrusted by some scholarly minds; for, as so many of the mystics affirm, it is through the inactivity of his reasoning powers that man is united by his highest faculty to Him who is unknowable.

Thus, by knowing nothing he knows that which is beyond knowledge. Such wisdom acquired by experience in a sphere beyond, but not contra to, reason is sometimes perceived as dangerous nonsense.

From one point of view it is just that. It is indeed "non-sense", that is beyond the perception of the limited world of human senses. So are many other things that exist, even in the world of sensation itself, like the colour world of the bees, the smell world of dogs and the direction finding ability of migratory birds.

The world of human senses in which reason is active, is very limited and even when human reason expands into an abstract philosophical concepts like justice, we are told by men who know that "God's thoughts are not our thoughts nor God's way our way".

That is to say, there is a reality beyond the limitations of human reason and understanding. Also, when we rationalise about love, we are reminded that "the love of God is broader than the measure of man's mind".

Evidently, the world of "non-sense" is as real to the mystic as is the world of sense and reason to all. To enter the world beyond reason, the world of "non-sense" is also dangerous for it challenges existing beliefs and can lead to psychological and physical persecution. It is also dangerous in a deeper sense. The Homilies of Origen tell us that "the Saviour saith he who is near me is near the fire", and while fire warms and gives light it also burns.

This concept, that contact with divine mysteries in the sphere beyond reason has a dangerous quality, is shared by all Western Christians, but it is still found in the Orthodox churches of the East.

Western Christians tend to lack a sense of awe, of holy fear - one of the gifts of the Spirit - in the presence of divine mystery, overlooking the fact that "the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom".

One of the traditional aims of Christian worship is to express through the liturgy, the ritual and the symbols of faith, awe and holy fear in the presence of the Mysterious, thus bearing witness to realities beyond, but not contra to, reason. At the same time, scholars within the church with their theology provide a steady influence on the emotions.

The fiery inspired visionary prophet, with his message to the heart, and the conservative scholarly priest theologian, speaking to the head, supplement and need each other, lest the one becomes a deluded fanatic and the other pragmatic rationalist preserving an institution in which the fire of the Spirit no longer burns.

This tension between the mysticism of the heart and the rationalism of the mind is permanent in any living faith and prevents it expelling into chaos or withering into sterility. A living faith can only survive as long as it contains within itself the dynamic of "dangerous" "non-sense", and the counter balance of cool reason, which prevents the supra-rational degenerating into the irrational.

Any church at any period in history is influenced by the psychological climate of its time and by the thought forms of those to whom it ministers. This is necessary if it is to keep "in touch", but at the same time it also has a duty to be true to its vocation and to express those aspects of eternal truths which are unshiftable.

In this age of materialism and high technology, reason is pre-eminent in current thought while the mystical beyond reason element of the faith tends to be over-shadowed.

True, at the ordination of priests we, with the wisdom of the ages, still pray "Come Holy Ghost our souls inspire, and lighten with celestial fire", so that we are not altogether oblivious of the fact that freedom and prosperity are not the whole of the good news of God's kingdom.

Nevertheless, we need continually to ask whether as Christians we are bearing witness to the mysteries of faith beyond reason and thus meeting the spiritual as well as the ethical and social needs of our contemporaries.

Men are not hungry only for freedom and bread, as the growth and discipline of esoteric cults show. Even in a materialistic and rational age the human soul needs to worship and to find in the church's liturgy, not so much participation and understanding as the spiritual nourishment of divine mysteries and "the peace that passeth all understanding".

So, sometimes there is the need to say in the words of the ancient Greek hymn from the Liturgy of St James:

"Let all mortal flesh keep silence and with fear and trembling stand. Ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in His hand, Christ our God to earth descendeth our full homage to demand".

The author, an Anglican priest, formerly researched in physiological psychology.

OBITUARY

CARDINAL CARLO CONFALONIERI

Respected papal confidant



Cardinal Carlo Confalonieri, dean of the Roman Catholic College of Cardinals since 1977, who was personal chamberlain and secretary to Pope Pius XI throughout his 17-year reign, died yesterday at the age of 93.

Born on July 25, 1893, at Seveso, in the archdiocese of Milan, he was educated at the diocesan seminary and at the Gregorian University, Rome, where his studies for the priesthood were interrupted in 1914 by his call-up for service in the Italian army.

He continued to study as opportunity allowed, and so impressed Cardinal Ferrari, then Archbishop of Milan, by his persistence in the face of difficulties that special permission was received from the Holy See for the cardinal to ordain him to the priesthood before he reached canonical age. That was in 1916 while the *ordinandus* was on leave.

He immediately returned to active service and took part in the bitter fighting in the Italian Alps. He was finally demobilized in 1919 and awarded the War Cross of Merit.

After two years as a parish priest in Milan he returned to Rome with Cardinal Ratti for the conclave which elected the cardinal as Pope Pius XI. Confalonieri was appointed private secretary to this pontiff who was noted for his hostility to Hitler, and remained at the Vatican throughout his long reign. When Pius XI was dying, Confalonieri assisted Cardinal Pacelli in the administration of the Last Sacraments and in prayers at the Pope's bedside.

On Pacelli's election as Pope Pius XII in 1939 the appointment was renewed, and continued until 1941, when Confalonieri was nominated Archbishop of Aquila and consecrated personally by the pontiff.

His time at Aquila was marked particularly by the retreat of German forces through Italy after the Allied landings. The town itself was threatened by a decision to blow up important buildings as cover for the retreat. The archbishop intervened, called on the officer in charge of operations, and reminded him of his duty to the civilian population. An order was given to cancel the plans, and years later the officer, whose name the archbishop refused to divulge, wrote thanking him for his encouragement to act humanely.

In 1950, Confalonieri was translated to the titular see of Nicopolis and Nestum on appointment as Secretary of the Sacred Congregation for Universities and Seminaries. He was made a cardinal by Pope John XXIII in 1958 with the title of St Agnes-without-the-Walls.

He also served as prefect of the Vatican Congregation for Catholic Education, and prefect of the Vatican Congregation for Bishops.

In 1977, by now in his 80s, Confalonieri was chosen as dean of the College of Cardinals, a titular post in which he represented his fellow cardinals at official church functions.

Birthdays

TODAY: Lord Benson, 77; Sir Basil Engolm, 74; Professor E. Maxwell Fry, 87; Mr John Gale, 57; Sir Christopher Hogg, 50; Sir Reginald Murray, 70; Lord Mundy, 64; Lord Justice of Appeal, 64; Mr J. P. O'Toole, 54; Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon Thomas Ponsbury, 56; Dr A. W. Spence, 86; Professor Sir Peter Swinnerton-Dyer, 59; Mr David Waddington, QC, MP, 57; Mr Alan Whicker, 61; Lord Wigram, 71; Sir John Willis, 78.

TOMORROW: Air Marshal Sir Peter Bairns, 60; Lieutenant-General Sir Alexander Boswell, 58; Mr Denis Carey, 77; Mrs R. C. Chilvers, 72; Lord Drumalbyn, 78; Miss P. D. James, 66; Sir David A. Scott, 67; Mr Martin Sloan, 40; Sir Jack Sellar, 40; Sir Keith Taylor, 62; Sir Keith Uwin, 77; Sir George Walker, 75; the Right Rev Dr R. P. Wilson, 81; Mr Terry Wogan, 48.

Forthcoming marriages

Dr R.M. Borthwick and Miss H.M.E. Sparrow. The engagement is announced between Robin, elder son of Dr and Mrs W.M. Borthwick, of Westhill, Inverness, and Helen, daughter of Mr and Mrs D.B. Sparrow, of Hemel-Hempstead, Hertfordshire.

Dr S.A. Burns and Mrs E.J. Blumfield. The engagement is announced between Stewart Burns and Hazel Blumfield (née Palmer), of Staplehurst, Kent.

Mr L.B. Creber and Miss E.S. Gray. The engagement is announced between Ian Broughton, only son of the late Mr Richard Creber and Mrs E.S. Gray, of Brighton, Victoria, Australia, and Elizabeth Saby, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Frederick Gray, of Warringled, West Sussex.

Mr F.G. Erasmus and Miss J. Carey-Harris. The engagement is announced between Ferdinand, son of Mr J. Erasmus, of Eastleigh, Hampshire, and Mrs J. P. Harris, of Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire.

Mr M.C. Falloa, MP, and Miss W.E. Payne. The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr M.C. Falloa, of Perth, and Mrs Hazel Falloa, of Eastleigh, Hampshire, and Wendy, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs P.H. Payne, of Bursa, Home-on-Spalding Road, York.

Mr W.T. Hoath and Miss H.M. Megginson. The engagement is announced between William, third son of Mr W.T. Hoath, of Farnham, Surrey, and Helen Mary, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs C.R. Megginson, of Sheriff Hutton, North Yorkshire.

Mr J.C. Mangan and Miss A.L. Lamsarage. The engagement is announced between Jonathan Charles, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Michael Mangan, of Roehampton, London, and Ana Lourdes, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs John Lamsarage, of Miami and Puerto Rico.

Mr M.R. Need and Miss H.G. Baines. The engagement is announced between Michael, Richmond, son of Mr and Mrs Ralph Need, of Combe Hay, Bath, Avon, and Helen Grace, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs John Baines, of Priors Marston, Warwickshire.

Mr M.E.M. Roberts and Miss R.N. Charlesworth. The engagement is announced between Mark, only son of Colonel and Mrs M.E.M. Roberts, of Llanvair, Discead, Gwent, and Rhian, eldest daughter of Major and Mrs D. Charlesworth, of Stoke Ferry, Norfolk.

TEDDY WILSON

Teddy Wilson, the American jazz pianist who came to prominence in the 1930s with the Benny Goodman Trio, died on July 31 in New Britain, Connecticut. He was 73.

In his years with Goodman, Wilson was rated the most accomplished pianist in jazz. Apart from the fact that his participation in the Goodman trio made it the swing era's first inter-racial group, and gave acceptability to the idea of black musicians playing alongside white ones, he brought to its output harmonic refinement and a restraint which influenced not only other jazz pianists, but other instrumentalists as well.

His many compositions and arrangements attest to a skill in this department which is fortunately captured on the many recordings he made.

He was born Theodore Wilson in Austin, Texas, on November 24, 1912. While he was still young the family moved to Talladega, Alabama, where his father became head of the English department at the university, and his mother the librarian.

His own musical training was a rigorous one, four years learning piano and violin at Tuskegee were supplemented by studies in music theory, in which he majored at Talladega College.

In 1929 he moved to Detroit where, with the Speed Webb band, he began his career as a pianist. In the following year he joined Milton Senior in Toledo and travelled with him to Chicago. Here, in the period 1931-33, he played with musicians of the calibre of Louis Armstrong, Erskine Tate and Jimmy Noone, an experience which gave him exacting standards of comparison and laid the groundwork for his technique.

His next stop was New York, where he joined Benny Carter in 1933. And his first claim on international attention was a recording for the foreign market with Carter's Chocolate Dandies.

Memorial service

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr William Daniel Lacey was held yesterday at St Margaret's, Westminster. Canon Trevor Beeson officiated.

Mr Bryan Jefferson, Director-General of Design Services of the Property Services Agency, also representing the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment, read the lesson and Mr Patrick Harrison, Secretary of the Royal Institute of British Architects, read *A Verse* by William Shakespeare. Colin Bryce gave an address. Among those present were: Major and Mrs J. Clark, Mr and Mrs E. G. Woodward.

Service dinner

Essex Army Cadet Force The County Commandant, Colonel E. Boddie, and officers of the Essex Army Cadet Force dined at Pennington Training Camp, Hove, East Sussex, yesterday. Lieutenant Colonel D. G. Mullis presided, Brigadier J. S. Symons, Colonel J. P. Palmer, Major and Captain R. P. Laurie were the principal guests.

Inner Temple

Judge Hawser, QC, has been elected treasurer for 1987 and Judge Monie-Williams is to be reader. Sir Robert Armstrong has been elected an honorary master of the Bench.

Tenth Sunday after Trinity

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL 8.30 AM. Archbishop Thomas Sturges, Dean of Canterbury, will officiate. The Queen's Own South Devon Regiment will sing the Anthem, "The Lord's Prayer". Expectations will be 11.30 AM. In the evening, 7.30 PM. The Rev. Canon J. G. Wood, Rector of St. Paul's Cathedral, will officiate. The Rev. Canon J. G. Wood, Rector of St. Paul's Cathedral, will officiate. The Rev. Canon J. G. Wood, Rector of St. Paul's Cathedral, will officiate.

Services tomorrow

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, Old Chelsea, SW11 1PU. 11 AM. The Rev. Canon J. G. Wood, Rector of St. Paul's Cathedral, will officiate. The Rev. Canon J. G. Wood, Rector of St. Paul's Cathedral, will officiate. The Rev. Canon J. G. Wood, Rector of St. Paul's Cathedral, will officiate.

MR DAVID HENLEY

Mr David Henley, who created the Rank charm school in the 1940s to groom potential stars for the cinema, has died at the age of 92.

He became a director of the Rank Organization in 1945 as director of artists with a particular responsibility for finding new acting talent. He started the charm school in imitation of similar organizations in Hollywood.

At any one time the school had more than 70 names on its books, and though many fell by the wayside, several did become well known. Among them Christopher Lee, Diana Dors, Barbara Murray and the broadcaster Peter Murray.

The school was associated with theatre repertory companies in Worthing and Turbridge Wells, for which Henley organised Rank backing to provide his young hopefuls with acting experience.

David Henley was born in London and was an actor for many years before succeeding

Services tomorrow

ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road, SW18 1TA. 11 AM. The Rev. Canon J. G. Wood, Rector of St. Paul's Cathedral, will officiate. The Rev. Canon J. G. Wood, Rector of St. Paul's Cathedral, will officiate. The Rev. Canon J. G. Wood, Rector of St. Paul's Cathedral, will officiate.

MR DAVID HENLEY

A. M. Wall as general secretary of Equity in the early 1930s.

From Equity he joined the London office of Myron Selznick, where he worked such stars as Vivien Leigh and Robert Donat, and acted as a talent scout for film companies.

He left Rank in 1949 to join City Share Trust and was for several years afterwards involved in film production and distribution.

Mr William A. Peter, who died on July 28 at the age of 69, was a former chairman of the Tribune International Corporation which publishes German-language newspapers in Chicago and Milwaukee.

In 1971 the West German government awarded Peter its highest decoration, the Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit, for helping 10,000 East German refugees to settle in West Germany after the Second World War, and for his contribution to the preservation of German culture in the state.

Gemayel in peace offer to Syrians

From Juan Carlos Gumico Beirut

Under increasing pressure from Syria, President Gemayel yesterday unexpectedly offered an olive branch to Damascus and to Muslim foes who demand his resignation and proposed a joint quest for a new formula to end the Lebanese civil war.

"I personally call on brother President Hafez el-Assad to continue what he has already begun and pledged over the years," the President said during a ceremony - boycotted by Muslim military and political leaders - to commemorate the Army's day in Christian east Beirut.

"The pitfalls that faced his and our efforts in the past could serve as a lesson for the future," he said.

Hours afterwards a Lebanese Army soldier was killed and 25 civilians were injured when a small bomb exploded near a factory in the Christian suburb of Dora. It followed two car bomb attacks in east and west Beirut early this week which claimed 55 lives.

Mr Gemayel's clear call for Syrian help came amid reports that Syria overnight had sent a new batch of soldiers to west Beirut, where nearly 500 Syrian troops and plainclothes agents are helping Muslim units of the Lebanese Army to try to restore order under a Damascus-sponsored "security plan" launched a month ago.

Syrian military presence in the Lebanese capital has caused widespread suspicion and bitter criticism among some Christian politicians who see Syria's policies in Lebanon as a threat to national sovereignty.

The President's words embodied the first conciliatory gesture towards Damascus after months of strain provoked by the presidential veto to a tripartite peace accord signed in Damascus by Lebanon's most powerful Christian and Muslim militias in December.

The accord, never applied, sought to give Muslims more power.



Some of the owners with their collie dogs which have been entered for the National Trust Sheepdog Trial at Chartwell (Photograph: Suresh Karadia).

Thatcher visit target of Games attack

Continued from page 1

closed its hospitality suite during her stay in case she was inadvertently taken there for refreshments. In fact, the only person refused entry was Mr Robert Maxwell, co-chairman of the Games organizing committee.

He later announced that a Japanese philanthropist was likely to underwrite the expected £2 million deficit from the Games.

Mr Maxwell said he would make a formal application to Mr Ryoichi Sasakawa after the accounts had been completed, adding that he would make sure that everyone who owned money "plays their part".

Botha sidesteps curfews rule

Continued from page 1

move to warn its black neighbours of the two-way consequences of economic sanctions.

The Department of Trade and Industry announced in Pretoria that it was giving importers of Zimbabwean products "timeous" warning that special import licences will be needed from next Friday, August 8.

It said in a statement: "It is incumbent upon the South African Government to protect local commerce and industry and to safeguard the sources of supply of their normal requirements."

Against this background and in view of other developments concerning South Africa, the Government has decided to introduce a system of import licensing on all

imports from Zimbabwe."

It would enable the Government to monitor the volume and nature of Zimbabwean imports, the statement said. South Africa is by far Zimbabwe's biggest trading partner and the conduit for the bulk of its overseas trade. Two-way trade between the countries was worth 382 million rand (£100 million) last year.

In 1984, South Africa took 18.3 per cent of Zimbabwe's exports and supplied 19.3 per cent of its imports.

It is estimated that between 68 and 90 per cent of Zimbabwe's exports go through South Africa and between 65 and 80 per cent of imports. Zimbabwe's natural outlet to the sea, Beira in Mozambique, can handle only one tenth of

Thatcher will stand alone on sanctions

Continued from page 1

statement that the Government adhered to the European Community programme to take a range of measures if the South African Government refused to negotiate peacefully changes in its "abhorrent system" within the coming months.

Mr Pym said the whole of the world, including Britain, was hostile to apartheid. But it seemed that Britain had not been taking a lead in getting international agreement.

"I think Mrs Thatcher has overstated the case. She seems to have become so obsessed by the case against sanctions, which is a perfectly valid case, that it seems as though the rest of the problem was forgotten."

Letter from Delhi Cola crisis fizzles in the Punjab

In India, where the combination of extreme heat and teeming population makes the manufacturers of soft drinks drool with anticipation, the American giant Pepsi-Cola is again trying to open up.

Neither Pepsi nor its deadly rival, Coca-Cola, is sold in this country, perhaps again in the world. The Americans manage to operate even behind the Iron Curtain, but they were thrown out of India at the time of the Janata Government in the late 1970s.

Bid to learn elixir secret

Under India's rigorous policy of protection for its own industries, and in its determination not to be exploited by multinational capitalists, the Government would allow the Americans to own only 40 per cent of the manufacturing and bottling companies here.

They also tried to insist on learning the secret of the prime elixir, from which all Cokes and Pepsis are made when diluted with fruit juices.

The US companies said that they would sooner die than part with the secret, and asked the Indians how they would like being the only country in the world where Coke and Pepsi were not available. To the Americans' chagrin, the Indians answered that they would like it just fine.

And, as a result, you need a friend in the American Embassy if you want to have a genuine US cola, or else slip over the border into Pakistan or Bangladesh.

The Indians make their own colas, called Campa Cola, or Thums Up.

Now the new Government in Punjab has come up with a suggestion that Pepsi should be allowed to brew and bottle its dark ambrosia in the troubled state, thus

Opposition is not satisfied

That has not satisfied the opposition, which says that it does not believe that Pepsi means to part with its secret formula.

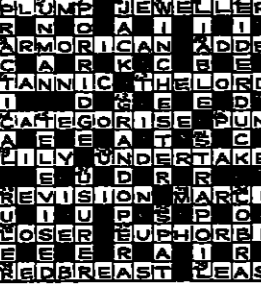
The Indian soft drinks industry is responding with a publicity campaign, the central point of which is to say that Pepsi-Cola's entry into the market would destabilize the Indian industry and put a million people out of work.

Of Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, the chief minister of Punjab, the Indian soft drink manufacturers say: "Mr Barnala should work for peace, and not for Pepsi."

Michael Hamlyn

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Solution to Puzzle No 17,113



A prize of The Times Atlas of World History will be given for the first three correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition PO Box 486, 1 Virginia Street, London, E1 9XN. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name: _____ Address: _____

Solution to Puzzle No 17,108



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Today's events

Royal engagements The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, attends final athletics events and will close the XIII Commonwealth Games, Meadowbank Sports Centre, Edinburgh, 1.

The Duke of Edinburgh attends Cowes Week, embarks HMV Britannia, Cowes, Isle of Wight, 8.40.

New exhibitions Ghosts: Recent Sculpture and Drawings by Esmond Bingham; Drawings and Prints by Sasa Marinkov; New Work by Stephen Turner; Sculptural Installation by Pierre Vivant; Woodlands Art Gallery, 90 Mycenae Rd, SE3; Mon to Fri 10 to 7.30, Sat 10 to 6, Sun 2 to 6.

Painting into Air: Works by Douglas Swan, Quinton Green, 5/6 Cork St, W1; 10 to 12.30. Paintings and prints by Fernin Becker, Stephen Barley Gallery, 62 Church St, SW3; 10 to 4.

Music Concert by The Wren Orchestra of London, Kenwood House, Courtyard, Hampstead Lane, NW3, 8.

Talks and lectures The Restless Earth: The San Andreas Fault (film); The Geological Museum, SW7, 2.30. Astronomy and Astrology, 2.30. The Moon over the Nearest Neighbour, both by Paul Dawson; National Maritime Museum, SE10, 3.30.

Children's Day On The South Bank: films, demonstrations, face painting and Punch and Judy; South Bank Centre, SE1, 12 to 6. Collectors Record Fair, Bonington Hotel, 92 Southampton Row, WC1, today 10 to 6, tomorrow 10 to 4.

Special Circus Performance: circus skills display for 7 to 14 year olds; Riverside Studios, Crisp Rd, W6, 12.

Tomorrow's events Royal engagements The Queen gives a dinner party for the Heads of Delegation to the Commonwealth Review Meeting, Buckingham Palace, 8.15.

New exhibitions Embroidery and Textile Graphics by Janina B Rennie, Peter Rennie and Joan Syrett, Hampton Court Palace, Apartment 39; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 12 to 5 (ends Aug 17).

General Summer in the City: Family Festival of free children's entertainment, foyer music, seaside shells painting competition, late night concert and fireworks display; Barbican Centre, EC2, today until Aug 10, for info tel: (01) 638 4141 ext. 218.

Canterbury Pilgrimage Bike Ride: meet Charing Cross, 9.25 for train to Ashford. Fourth Covent Garden Day of Artists with Disabilities: poetry, music and drama; West Piazza, WC2, 11 to 6. Book Fair: The Old Town Hall, Haverstock Hill, NW3, 11 to 5.

In the garden

When to apply water to plants, how often and how much are questions that need careful thought. Crops like soft fruits and peas and beans - which are mainly water anyway - need watering from the time the pods or fruits have set and are swelling; applying it before they may produce leafy growth but does not swell the crop. Much the same applies to potatoes. Apply at least 1 1/2 gallons to the square yard, two or three times a week in dry spells.

Gather and dry herbs for winter use, cut eryngiums, stevia and other everlasting flowers when they have just opened and are at their best. Dry and store them in plastic bags to keep free of dust until required for winter use. Watch for signs of virus disease on blues -

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The pound

Table with exchange rates for various currencies including Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and Yugoslavia.

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Regulation Index: 385.5. London: The FT index closed up 1.4 at 1273.4.

New York: The Dow Jones industrial average closed 11.67 down at 1783.84.

Portfolio Gold

For readers who may have missed a copy of The Times this week, we repeat below this week's Portfolio price changes (today's are on page 21).

Table showing gold prices for various countries: Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and Yugoslavia.

Gardeners Open

P. Plants for Sale TOMORROW: Verbenas: Goltum Cottage, Upper Hill, Oldham, in Greenfield Road, A635 between Oldham and Huddersfield, 11 to 5 p.m. Kew: Lath Hall, Kew, Richmond on B9002; rock garden, herbaceous borders, large grounds, ponds, bird observation house, sheep, heathland, etc.; 2 to 5.30.

Midlands: Mt. Conisford, off A6 of Cannock, off A2 at B2005; 2 acres, very good plants, shrubs, and garden, pool, rock plants, etc.; 11 to 5.30.

Sussex: Cobblers, Mount Pleasant, Jarvis Hill, Crawley, from 10 to 5.30. At Towerbridge, Crawley, 10 to 5.30. Sloping garden, large collection herbaceous plants, water garden, all seasons colour; also open August 24 and 31; 2.30 to 6.

Weather

A deep depression centred near western Scotland will move slowly NE.

6 am to midnight London, SE England, East Angles: Cloudy with a drizzle in places at first, becoming brighter later; wind SW fresh, locally strong; max temp 19 to 21C (66 to 70F).

Central S, E, MW, central N England, E, W Midlands, N Wales: Dry, sunny periods; wind SW fresh, locally strong; max temp 20 to 22C (68 to 72F).

Channal, Irish Sea, SW coast: Rain showers; wind SW fresh or strong; max temp 18 to 20C (64 to 68F).

Lea: Distant, late of rain, SW Scotland: Rainy; wind SW fresh or strong; max temp 16 to 18C (61 to 64F).

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Strait of Dover: English Channel: Wind SW strong, locally gale force; max temp 16 to 18C (61 to 64F).

Sunny intervals; showers in N and W, heavy in places, later spreading to eastern coasts. Sea: rough in SE England. Windy at first in N.

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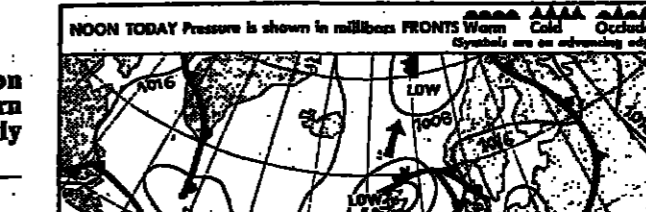


Table of High Tides for various locations including London Bridge, Aberdeen, Belfast, Devonport, Dover, Falmouth, Glasgow, Holyhead, Lough, Liverpool, Lowestoft, Newcastle, Millport Haven, Newcastle, Oban, Penzance, Portland, Southampton, Shoreham, Swansea, and Tees.

Table of Moon phases: Sun rises, Moon sets, Sun sets, Moon rises for August 2 and August 5.

Table of Sun and Moon positions for August 2 and August 5, including sunrise, sunset, moonrise, and moonset times.

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Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1273.4 (+1.4) FT-SE 100 1561.6 (+3.7) Bargains 19101 USM (Datastream) 121.12 (-0.27) THE POUND US Dollar 1.4850 (-0.0075) W German mark 3.0925 (-0.0313) Trade-weighted 71.7 (-0.3)

US buy for Lex

Lex Service, the Volvo and electronic components distributor, yesterday announced it had invested more than \$9 million in the US electronic components industry...

In the six months to the end of June, Richey/Impact made trading profits of \$243,000 (£163,000) on sales of \$19.5 million (£13.1 million) compared with trading losses of \$548,000 (£368,000).

100% Yes

The Management Group's agreed \$6.6 million offer for Authority Investments, the banking and property company, is unconditional following 100 per cent acceptances from the A ordinary shareholders...

SIB attacked

The Consumers Association yesterday said it was "appalled" that under the new rules proposed by the Securities and Investment Board, pension plans could be sold by foot-in-the-door salesmen...

Canal battle

Higams, the private company making a £37 million hostile bid for the Manchester Ship Canal Company, produced its offer document yesterday, offering shareholders 625p per ordinary share cash...

Extel purchase

Extel, the communications and publishing group, is buying The Dealers Digest, an American financial publishing and database operation, for \$40 million (£27 million).

BAA transfer

The assets of the British Airports Authority were transferred to BAA plc yesterday in preparation for privatization. It is expected that the whole of the share capital will be sold to the public during the first half of next year.

Table with 2 columns: Market Index, Value, Change. Includes FT 30 Share, FT-SE 100, USM, etc.

MARKET SUMMARY

Table with 2 columns: Market Index, Value, Change. Includes New York, Dow Jones, Nikkei, etc.

INTEREST RATES

Table with 2 columns: Rate, Value. Includes London Bank Rate, 3-month interbank, etc.

CURRENCIES

Table with 2 columns: Currency, Value, Change. Includes London, New York, DM, etc.

Bid likely as 14% of RHM is sold

By Cliff Feltham

A full-scale takeover bid for Ranks Hovis McDougall, the Mothers Pride and Mr Kipling Cakes bakery group, looked imminent last night after a crucial 14.6 per cent stake in the business was bought by the Australian food producer Goodman Fielder.



Sir Peter Reynolds taken by surprise

The shareholding had been picked up for £107 million from S & W Berisford, the commodity group, which has long been tipped as a seller.

The price put a value on the shares of about 258p. They shot up 34p on the stock market to a new high for the year of 244p, valuing the group at just under £700 million.

The news appeared to take RHM by surprise. A spokesman said: "Who are these people? We've never heard of them. Our first task is to find out something about them."

One analyst said: "It looks certain the Australians will now make an offer. My best

guess is that it will be around the 300p-a-share mark."

Goodman Fielder is the product of a three-way merger in the Australian food industry put together earlier this year with considerable backing from Mr John Elliott's agricultural and financial services group Elders DXL, which still retains a stake of about 14 per cent.

The group has sales of about £500 million, ranging from

processing wheat to consumer products and is capitalized at about £506 million.

RHM, headed by the chairman Sir Peter Reynolds, earned profits of £71 million last year and analysts have been forecasting an outcome of about £80 million for this year.

It is the largest British flour miller with 33 per cent of the market, one of two major bread bakers with a market share of 28 per cent, and has well known grocery brands such as Bisto, Cerebos, and Saxa. It operates about 350 bakery shops, 50 shops and restaurants and 45 fish and chip shops.

It also has a 70 per cent stake in Cerebos Pacific which produces and markets a range of grocery products in the Far East, Australia and New Zealand, which would be of considerable interest to Goodman Fielder.

A leading firm of Australian brokers said: "The prospects for expansion in that area are

very limited at the moment so it would make a lot of sense for Goodman Fielder to go further afield. Ranks Hovis McDougall would offer a fine opportunity."

Mr Mark Simpson, of the London stockbroker Phillips & Drew, said: "Some of the Australian merchants are going through a difficult time so they want to bolster earnings from elsewhere. It looks likely that a full bid will come - and it could be around the 300p mark."

S & W Berisford has made a handsome profit of about £50 million on the sale of the shares, which it picked up when it acquired British Sugar four years ago.

The company - itself the subject of competing offers from Tate and Lyle and the Italian group Ferruzzi now being examined by the Monopolies Commission - has been looking at ways of curbing its debt.

News of the share sale lifted its own shares 7p to 249p.

Prudential adds Reeds Rains to its estate agency network

By Allison Eadie

Prudential Assurance, Britain's largest life company, yesterday announced the extension of its estate agency operations with the acquisition of Reeds Rains, the largest independent residential agency in the North of England.

Reeds Rains has 54 offices from Cumbria through Lancashire to Derbyshire and Staffordshire. In the past 12 months its 460 full and part-time staff has handled over 10,000 residential property sales for a net value of more than £300 million.

As with other Prudential estate agency purchases, no price is being put on the deal, which will be paid for partly in cash and partly by the issue of

£2.25 million worth of shares.

The acquisition takes to 167 the number of estate agency outlets owned by Prudential Property Services. The Pru's six other agency purchases in the past year have been mainly in southern England.

Its position as Britain's third largest estate agency remains unchanged, behind Hambro Countrywide (Mann and Co and Bairnsford) with around 380 outlets and Lloyds Bank's Black Horse operation with about 240 outlets.

The Pru is on target to achieve its objective of a national network of 500 estate agency outlets by the end of next year. It hopes to have extended its network to 250 by the end of this year.

Although it has not yet declared how much it has spent on buying agents, it has stated that it expected the cost of buying and developing a 500-strong network could be £100 million to £200 million.

Last May the Pru called on shareholders for £357 million in a rights issue, part of which was earmarked for developing estate agency operations.

The Pru is developing a comprehensive range of estate agency services, including mortgages from various banks and building societies.

It is also working on a "chainbreaking facility" to overcome the difficulties of clients who are all set to move and suddenly lose their purchaser.

\$200m FRN issue by Morgan Grenfell

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Morgan Grenfell, the merchant banking group, yesterday announced the issue of \$200 million of perpetual floating rate notes only a month after it raised £150 million of new capital through a share issue.

The clearing banks have been prolific issuers of perpetual FRNs, but Morgan Grenfell is only the third merchant bank to raise capital this way.

The bank said that the proceeds will be used to back its merchant banking activities. Mr David Ewart, group finance director, said: "Our ability to take large positions and to help clients in mega-mergers will be substantially enhanced."

Of the share issue, £100 million was allocated to Morgan Grenfell's growing securities operations, but at the time the bank warned that further capital raising would be necessary. The bank ran into trouble with the Bank of England this year for taking very large positions on behalf of clients in the shares of target companies during takeover bids.

The Bank introduced a rule that banks could only take on shares during bid battles worth up to 25 per cent of their capital base. It is tightening up rules on large lending exposures to individual clients.

The FRN issue will raise Morgan Grenfell's banking capital to more than £400 million.

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Woman chief for Hanson

Mrs Yve Newbold, above, has been named company secretary of Hanson Trust from September 1. Mrs Newbold, aged 45 and now with a firm of City solicitors, will be the highest ranking woman at the company. She formerly worked for IBM, Walt Disney Productions and Rank Xerox.

Pergamon heads for new role

By Teresa Poole

Mr Robert Maxwell's private company Pergamon yesterday moved closer to becoming an investment holding company with the announcement that Hollis, the educational supplies and timber company which it controls, proposes to buy a number of Pergamon businesses for £30 million.

The private goods and services to the professions, financial services sectors, government organizations and industry.

The package includes Aberdeen University, El Arnold & Son, the stationer, and educational supplier, and Bumpus Haldane & Maxwell, the library supplier. On a pro forma basis, the companies made pretax profits of £4.4 million in 1985.

Pergamon will be left with its newspaper interests, including the Daily Mirror, the Pergamon scientific and technical books business, the cable and satellite television interests, and various share holdings, including the 75 per cent stake in British Printing and Communications Corporation. In March, BPCC bought Pergamon's magazines and journals business for £23.9 million.

It is still Mr Maxwell's stated aim to float off Mirror Group Newspapers but this is unlikely to happen for at least 18 months.

Yesterday's deal, which needs shareholders' approval, will raise Pergamon's voting stake in Hollis from 77.5 per cent to almost 82 per cent. Hollis, at last week's suspension price of 65p, is capitalized at £45.6 million.

Broad Street takeover

Broad Street Associates, a private company which provides corporate and financial public relations and advertising advice and services, is being reversed into Stanelco.

The price agreed is 1,562 ordinary and 184 deferred Stanelco shares for 10,885 Broad Street shares, based on a forecast of net pretax profits for Broad Street of not less than £850,000. Stanelco made an operating loss of £111,160 for the year to February 28.

Ex-USM glamour firm calls in the receivers

By Our City Staff

Metal Sciences, which was oversubscribed 108 times when it came to the Unlisted Securities Market three years ago, has suspended dealings in its shares and called in the receivers.

The shares were halted at 6p valuing the business at around £1.3 million compared with the offer-for-sale price of 11p and a peak of 37p.

Metal Sciences was floated by London Venture Capital Market, the issuing house, and at one time was headed by Sir Monty Finniston, the former British Steel chairman, during the day, rising 2p to 724p.

In an interview with an Australian newspaper, Mr Holmes à Court is reported to have said that he was likely to increase his holding from the 8 per cent level reached two weeks ago.

Doubling his holding would cost around £90 million. It

Trafalgar's French connection

Trafalgar House is setting up a joint company with Bouygues, France's largest construction company, to work on projects relating to water supply and sewage treatment. The link-up aims to exploit the worldwide demand for water treatment and sewerage plants.

The 50-50 joint company, Cimentation Saur Water Developments, will be formed in Britain. Trafalgar House and Bouygues also plan to cooperate on other types of international construction projects. Nearly half Trafalgar's £1.2 billion construction order book is for overseas work.

Holmes à Court report adds to Standard bank confusion

By Our Banking Correspondent

The confusion surrounding the future of Standard Chartered Bank deepened yesterday with reports that Mr Robert Holmes à Court, the Australian businessman, intended doubling his stake in the bank to 16 per cent. Despite the news, Standard's shares hardly moved during the day, rising 2p to 724p.

In an interview with an Australian newspaper, Mr Holmes à Court is reported to have said that he was likely to increase his holding from the 8 per cent level reached two weeks ago.

Doubling his holding would cost around £90 million. It

would bring him slightly above the 15 per cent stake held by Sir Yue-Kong Pao, the Hong Kong entrepreneur.

It would also bring his holdings under the close scrutiny of the Bank of England which must formally be informed of any shareholdings above 15 per cent in a British bank. In practice the Bank takes a close interest in the suitability of bank shareholders at an earlier stage.

Mr Holmes à Court was also reported as saying that he was opposed to any plan to split Standard since it would make it more vulnerable to takeovers. This is contrary to

the policy believed to be favoured by Sir Yue-Kong Pao of floating off key parts of the bank to maximize its value.

Both shareholders, who played a crucial role in fending off Lloyds Bank's bid for Standard, currently face large paper losses on their holdings.

Banking analysts in the City still believe there is a strong possibility that Mr Holmes à Court will sell his stake on to Westpac, the Australian bank. At the same time, Sir Yue-Kong's family confirmed yesterday that he had been offered a seat on the Standard board but did not say whether he had accepted.



Miserable week for pound and dollar

By Our City Staff

Both the pound and the dollar came under renewed selling pressure on foreign exchange markets late yesterday to complete a miserable week for the two currencies.

Early European speculation against the dollar, news of a fall in the US unemployment rate to 6.9 per cent and a 0.3 per cent advance in the delayed leading indicators revived the weak US currency, but not for long.

In New York later, the dollar fell to a record low of DM2.0870 but ended above its worst against the yen at Y154. Over the week, the dollar has lost more than 4 yen and 6 pennings.

Sterling's late weakness in

London cut the Bank of England's sterling index from 72.0 to 71.7, down 1.7 on the week, despite the fall in the dollar. Selling then continued in New York as dealers responded to a remark by Dr Mana Saeed Otaiba, the United Arab Emirates oil minister, that Opec was still far from agreement. The pound closed in New York at just \$1.4775, down from \$1.4915 opening in London.

The Opec conference in Geneva will continue today after five days of negotiations. A stopgap solution still looked the likeliest outcome yesterday, after members had offered about 2 million barrels per day in voluntary cuts.

Priest Marians bid talks

By Judith Hamley, Commercial Property Correspondent

Friendly talks are under way which could lead to Priest Marians, the property company, bidding for Lincroft Kilgour, the Savile Row tailor and investment company.

Priest Marians has bought the 26.48 per cent stake in Lincroft held by Mr Jeffrey Steiner, the American arbitrator, for £2.94 million. Mr Steiner resigned from the Lincroft board yesterday on the announcement.

If the talks succeed, the property company will make a

primary cash offer of 240p a share for the textile company in September. Lincroft's directors and family interests speak for 37.95 per cent of the company.

Priest Marians is placing 550,000 new shares at 10p each with Laurence Prust, the stockbroker, to raise £1.21 million.

It is interested in buying Lincroft for a high-quality income stream which will be useful to offset the cyclical nature of profits from property development.

Cautious welcome for new MFA

By Our City Staff

Negotiators from 54 nations agreed yesterday on an amended multifibre arrangement (MFA) which will run for five years, the third extension since the measure was introduced in 1974.

Despite prolonged opposition from China, the US succeeded in having the "new" natural fibre ramié covered by the MFA, but did not maintain its original demand that silk be included.

The original surge (of imports) clause has been replaced by a procedure permitting importing nations to apply restrictions selectively following consultations with the exporting country. More specific data will be required as justification for restrictions, including the state of the importer's domestic industry.

In Britain, the British Textile Confederation gave a cautious welcome to the MFA's renewal but said the European Economic Community must now stick to its negotiating mandate in drawing up the bilateral agreements with individual countries.

Under the new agreement, more liberal conditions will be offered to Third World exporters who open their markets to industrialized nations' textile and garment exports. Special consideration will be accorded new and small exporters. The new MFA also includes, at the EEC's request, an injunction against copying styles, models and designs.

Not covered by the new protocol are jute, steel, coal and similar fibres "traded in significant quantities before 1982" and used in sacking, mats, carpets and luggage.

While no specific period is mentioned, a new clause, proposed by developing country producers, says the MFA should be "ultimately phased out".

The MFA applies to about half of the \$100 billion (£67 billion) annual trade in textiles and clothing, including \$15 billion of imports by industrialized countries from Third World sources.

The US negotiators were under extreme pressure to achieve an accord before August 6 when the House of Representatives will again vote on the Jenkins Bill, calling for drastic reductions in imports of Third World textiles.

The vote, which needs a two-thirds majority to overturn the Presidential veto, is expected to be very close. Textile imports into the US are growing at 17 per cent a year and the industry is winning support for protectionist measures.

Oppenheimer Europe-go for the encore. Following spectacular growth in 1985 European markets have consolidated in the first half of this year. Many financial advisers are looking again towards Europe for dynamic growth. The Oppenheimer European Growth Trust aims to capitalise on the obvious benefits of low interest rates, low inflation, dramatically reduced energy costs and the general climate of political stability. European markets are still relatively cheap. In addition to the healthy outlook for stockmarkets clients will benefit further if the pound continues to weaken against major European currencies, for example the Swiss Franc has appreciated 15% against sterling so far this year. Oppenheimer was one of the first to forecast the major European potential in late 1984. Our European fund was the top performing of all authorised unit trusts in 1985 and is currently up 59.9% over the 12 months to 1st July. For a copy of our latest European brochure call 01-489 1078 or write to Oppenheimer at 66 Cannon St, London EC4N 6AE.

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page.

WALL STREET

Late decline for Dow

New York (AP-Dow Jones) - Share prices slipped in dull trading yesterday. Some futures-related selling programmes and an apparent reluctance to hold stocks into the weekend accelerated the declines late in the day. "People just seemed to want to lighten their positions going into the weekend," Mr Richard Roslund, a block trader at

Dragonair loses battle for UK routes licence

Dragonair, the fledgling Hong Kong airline flying to Sir Yue-Kong Pao, the shipping tycoon, will not be allowed to fly to London. The decision by the Air Transport Licensing Authority (Atla) is a blow to Mr Stephen Miller, Dragonair's general manager, who had fought intense opposition from Cathay Pacific and British Caledonian. The tiny airline, which has only one Boeing 737, had fought a David and Goliath battle against its big rivals to

fly two routes to Europe: a direct Hong Kong to London route with a stopover in New Delhi, and a Hong Kong to Delhi-Amsterdam-Manchester service.

Dragonair had earlier been told it would not be flying the Amsterdam and Manchester routes and yesterday Mr Miller was told he would not be allowed to fly to London.

The four-page Atla judgment says Dragonair is "still very much an airline totally inexperienced in long-haul operations. Understandably, as they do not hold any relevant licences, they do not yet have any long-haul operations."

COMPANY NEWS

PCT GROUP: Results for 1985. Total dividend 3.2p (3.2p). Turnover £1.2 million (£2.3 million). Pretax loss £666,000 (profit £501,000). Loss per share 10.1p (earnings 8.3p).

LONDON: SCOTTS & BOWNE: Results for 1985. Turnover £1.6 million (£1.7 million). Pretax loss £1.1 million (£1.2 million). Loss per share 1.1p (earnings 1.1p).

ASPREY: Year to March 31. Total dividend 10p (6.6p). Turnover £51.82 million (£50.19 million). Pretax profit £10.2 million (£7.57 million). Earnings per share 33.07p (23.34p).

HILL SAMUEL GROUP: Hill Samuel Investment Management Group is to acquire Travelers Corporation's 50 per cent interest in Travelers Hill Samuel International, an equally-owned international investment adviser to US institutions.

HUNTING PETROLEUM SERVICES: A subsidiary, Hunting Oilfield Services, has bought Big Inch Marine Systems, an offshoot of the Henshaw Group, for \$900,000 (£336,000) in cash.

JERSEYS DRILLING: Six months to June 30. No dividend. Turnover £24.45 million (£23.3 million). Pretax loss £19.3 million (£8.8 million). Loss per share 39.8p (32.2p).

A & M GROUP: Dividend 0.4p (same) for the year to Jan 31. Turnover £2.45 million (£2.35 million). Pretax profit £542,792 (£538,851). Earnings per share 0.75p (1.41p).

APPOINTMENTS

Film Cooling Towers: Mr RJ Clark has become marketing director, Mr JD Stevens research and development director, Mr RI Thatcher projects director and Mr GW Ward engineering design director.

Matthew Clark & Sons (Holdings): Mr PD Kelley has been made a non-executive director.

UDO Holdings: Mr Robert Flashman has been appointed a director.

Keating Prince Michael of Kent has joined the board as a non-executive director.

DCE Group: Dr Clive Smith has been made technical director.

Colme International: Mr Tim Brooks has become deputy chief executive and finance director.

VFP Fluid Power: Mr Richard Jasinski has been appointed managing director.

Linrad: Mr John Disney has been made managing director, commercial products division.

Air Oil Flaregas: Mr Andrew Finlayson-Williams has joined the board.

MDA Management: Mr Tony Worrall has become a director and Mr Brian Rowntree and Mr Michael Herton are made senior executives.

Bridon: Mr Anthony CR Elliott has been appointed a non-executive director.

Spicer and Pegler: Mr Ingle Dawson, Mr Edgar Harvey and Mr Geoffrey Ainsworth have been admitted as partners.

E Thomas & Company: Mr Jerry Armstrong Taylor has joined the board.

Cray Electronics Holdings: Mr DS Tredgill has joined the board and additionally becomes managing director of Cray Instruments and Control Division.

TEMPUS Property assets key to Highams bid

Highams' £37 million bid for control of the Manchester Ship Canal Company is the first contested bid to take over a statutory authority that even long City memories can recall.

The attractions for Highams, the privately-owned company of Mr John Whitaker, the chairman of Peel Holdings, the developer of retail warehouses, are Manchester Ship's property assets. These were last valued at £30.8 million. The plan in the portfolio is the 300-acre Barton site - only four miles from Manchester's city centre - which would have tremendous potential as retail space.

Highams' attempts to wrest control of the Manchester Ship Canal Company from its present board have been complicated by the strange nature of the shareholdings as well as by the fact that the company still has statutory powers to fulfil.

Of the 21-strong board, 11 are members of the Labour-controlled Manchester City Council which is opposed to the idea of entrepreneurial property developers capitalizing on the assets of a largely moribund industry.

And they will object to the idea of developing a £100 million out-of-town shopping centre so close to the city. But they hold no shares in Manchester Ship.

Highams had been gradually increasing its voting and non-voting shareholdings in the company until it reached a point where a bid was automatically triggered. The complicated structure of Manchester Ship means that Highams has had to reduce its shareholding to 48.48 per cent at the request of the Takeover Panel. It sold its surplus shares yesterday at 28p.

Its bid will go through once it has 50 per cent of the company. But this will only give it about 31 per cent of the votes. The Takeover Panel has underwritten from Highams that it will break down its shareholding through nominees to obtain a majority of the voting rights once it has a majority shareholding.

Highams has to convince small shareholders - many of them local families whose shares have been handed

down through generations - to take its 625p-a-share cash offer. Most of the institutional shareholders have already sold their shares.

It is no coincidence that Manchester Ship's results have been brought forward a week and will appear on Monday. The board is continuing to tell shareholders to resist their offer document in Highams' offer document which went out yesterday.

It is likely that there will another revaluation of the property portfolio, designed to boost Manchester Ship's asset value in an attempt to thwart the Highams bid - or at least force it to raise it.

Extel Extel has not let the grass grow under its feet since seeing off the unwanted £170 million bid from Demerger Corporation, but any suggestion that its moves since April have been defensive are roundly rejected.

Following the purchase of CRE Barber and CFE Publishing and the sale of Royds Advertising, came yesterday's news of an expected large acquisition in the United States. At \$40 million (£27 million) the Dealers Digest, a financial publishing and database operation, is the biggest acquisition yet made by Extel.

The Dealers Digest is a private company and is being paid for by a vendor placing of 7.9 million shares at 330p to raise \$38.5 million. The remaining \$1.5 million will be paid in non-interest bearing notes in three years.

The vendors are retaining 1.6 million shares and 6.3 million have been conditionally placed with institutions.

Ordinary shareholders of Extel, including Mr Robert Maxwell, will be able to apply for the new shares, also at 330p, on a one-for-seven basis. The price looks quite a snip compared with Demerger's 400p cash bid and the price at which Mr Maxwell was most recently buying.

Last month Mr Maxwell succeeded in blocking a routine move by the board to obtain shareholders' approval to issue new shares. Mr Maxwell has a 13.8 per cent stake and appears to

influence a further 5 per cent. With turnover of \$8.8 million and profit before tax of \$2.1 million in the first 10 months of the current year, August 31, the Dealers Digest will make a significant impact on Extel.

The company remains in a net cash position and is well placed to make further acquisitions, but it will probably take it a good few months to absorb this one.

Cookson Group Cookson Group, the metals, industrial chemicals and ceramics group, continues to look for new acquisitions to put its policy of finding industrial niches in which it can seize market leadership. But it still has problems in electronics.

The sector is only tottering out of a counter-cyclical trough, although the effects of that on profitability are being more than offset by strong trading improvements, particularly in tin.

This is the picture emerging as Cookson, operating on a calendar year, moves into its second half with analysts looking for an improvement of about 25 per cent or £85 million. That compares with £67.6 million, up 27 per cent, last time.

Cookson, after a rapid series of acquisitions, has about 60 businesses, with 35 per cent or more of its activities in the United States, about 25 per cent in Britain and as much again in the rest of Europe. It is looking mostly east to India and the Pacific rim for more growth.

The electronics sector downturn bit profits in the latter part of 1985. There has been some improvement this year but a marked recovery now looks likely in 1987. The company emphasizes that there have not been losses in electronics but reduced profitability.

Titanium dioxide, used to whiten paint, plastics and paper, is a sector of strong growth where profit margins are good and tin will be a boost, not only because prices have dropped, but because Cookson will profit from the new freedom to strike advantageous deals directly with producers.

Table with columns: Stock Name, Price, Change, etc. Includes AMR, ASA, Allied Signal, etc.

CANADIAN PRICES

Table with columns: Stock Name, Price, Change, etc. Includes Alcan, Inco, Noranda, etc.

Cardiff Property soars

Cardiff Property more than doubled its pretax profits from £4.87 million to £12.3 million on ordinary activities in the half year to March 31. The interim dividend is unchanged at 3p.

work at its White House development in High Street, Egham, Surrey, is expected to be completed next summer. The finished project will comprise 6,000 sq ft of ground floor retail shopping space and 6,000 sq ft of first floor offices.

UNIT LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

Large table with multiple columns: Fund Name, Bid, Offer, Change, Yield, etc. Lists various investment funds like ACTIVA LIFE INSURANCE, ALBANY LIFE, etc.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Share prices stagnate after nerves grip investors

By Michael Clark

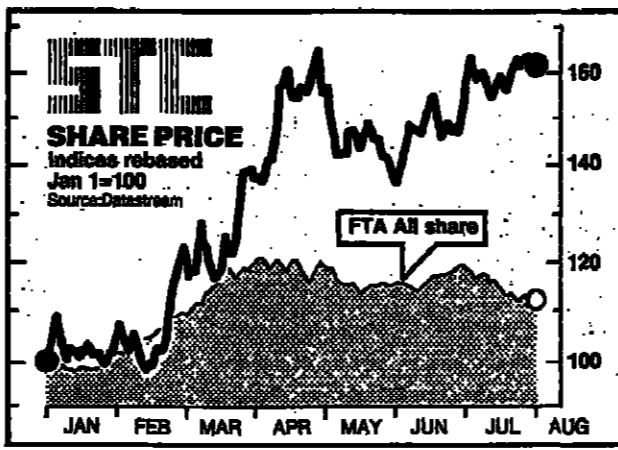
Investors decided that discretion was the better part of valour yesterday and withdrew to the sidelines...

The renewed pressure for sanctions against South Africa before this weekend's meeting of Commonwealth heads of government...

The result has been that prices have staggered from one crisis to another while looking for a lead...

Glits suffered losses stretching to 2%, affected by the renewed pressure on sterling on the foreign exchange market...

However, relief could be at hand. Several leading stockbrokers are again forecasting a half-point cut in bank base rates this month, or early next.



about the marketplace after the news broke. Berisford inherited its stake in RHM with its acquisition of British Sugar...

RECENT ISSUES

Table listing recent issues with columns for company name, price, and change. Includes companies like Anglo Sacs, Anglo (1), Anglo (2), Anglo (3), Anglo (4), Anglo (5), Anglo (6), Anglo (7), Anglo (8), Anglo (9), Anglo (10).

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table of London Financial Futures including Three Month Sterling, Three Month Eurodollar, US Treasury Bond, Short Oil, Long Oil, and FT-SE 100.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table of Foreign Exchanges including Sterling Spot and Forward Rates, Other Sterling Rates, and Dollar Spot Rates.

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

Table of Traditional Options with columns for First Dealings, Last Dealings, and For Settlement.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Large table of London Traded Options for various companies like Allied Lyons, BP, Coca Cola, Courtauld, Com Union, Cable & Wire, Destlers, GEO, Grand Met, ICI, Land Sec, Marks & Spen, Shell Trans, Traveler House, Becham, Boots, BTR, Bass, Blue Circle, De Beers, Deans, GKN, Glast, and Harston.

MONEY MARKET AND GOLD

Table of Money Market and Gold including Base Rates, Discount Market Loans, Treasury Bills, Prime Bank Bills, Trade Bills, Interbank, Local Authority Deposits, Sterling CDs, Dollar CDs, Euro Money Deposits, and Gold.

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet

A whiff of twenties' deflation in the air

The US index of leading indicators rose by 0.3 per cent in June, having fallen by 0.1 per cent in May. This may be just enough, allied with the July unemployment figures...

Rebels with a just cause

Dr Maurice Gillibrand and Mr David Wilson have little in common other than a deep sense of grievance over the management and performance of the two companies in which they hold shares.

£1000 worth £1384 after 12 months*

Over the same period and over 3, 5, 7 and 10 years Globe has consistently outperformed the average unit trust, and beaten the returns from building society and bank deposit accounts.

Advertisement for GLOBE investment services featuring a globe graphic and text: 'WE'RE STILL ON THE UP AT GLOBE'. Includes details about investment performance and contact information for Globe Investment Trust Plc.

Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

Table with columns: No., Company, Group, Gains or Loss. Lists various companies like Nat Aust Bk, Gerson (M), Hobbs, etc.

Please be sure to take account of any minus signs

Weekly Dividend Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in today's newspaper.

Table with columns: MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SAT, SUN. For weekly dividend tracking.

BRITISH FUNDS

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Lists various funds like 1000, 1001, etc.

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

Table with columns: 1000, 1001, 1002, etc. Lists short-term investments.

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

Table with columns: 1000, 1001, 1002, etc. Lists medium-term investments.

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

Table with columns: 1000, 1001, 1002, etc. Lists long-term investments.

UNDATED

Table with columns: 1000, 1001, 1002, etc. Lists undated investments.

INDEX-LINKED

Table with columns: 1000, 1001, 1002, etc. Lists index-linked investments.

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

Table with columns: 1000, 1001, 1002, etc. Lists bank discount rates.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES Lack of support

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began on Monday. Dealings end next Friday. Contango day August 11. Settlement day August 18. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Breweries section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Buildings and Roads section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Finance and Land section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Foods section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Chemicals, Plastics section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Cinemas and TV section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Drapery and Stores section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Electricals section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. E-K section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Insurance section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Leisure section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Mining section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. L-R section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Hotels and Caterers section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Industrials A-D section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. S-Z section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Overseas Traders section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Paper, Printing, Advert G section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Property section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Shipping section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Shoes and Leather section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Textiles section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Newspapers and Publishers section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Oil section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Tobacco section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Overseas Traders section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Paper, Printing, Advert G section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Property section.

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Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Textiles section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Newspapers and Publishers section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Oil section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Tobacco section.

Portfolio Gold

DAILY DIVIDEND £4,000 WEEKLY DIVIDEND £8,000. Claims required for +48 points. Claims required for +186 points. Claimants should ring 0254-53272.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Overseas Traders section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Paper, Printing, Advert G section.

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Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Oil section.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Pct, Div, Yld. Tobacco section.

© Ex dividend a Ex at b Forecast dividend a Interest payment passed a Price at suspension b Dividend end paid exclude a special Dividend c Pre-merger figures a Forecast earnings a Ex other a Ex rights a Ex scrip or share split a Tax-free. No significant ones.

Edited by Lorna Bourke

FAMILY MONEY 1

The losers in the property boom

Building society mortgage arrears are running at record levels and in 1985 the societies foreclosed on 16,770 homes.

Repossession through the courts is their last and most drastic method of making bad debts good. And last year foreclosures were running at more than three times the rate than in the smaller home loan market of four years ago.

Almost a third of first-time purchases in the first quarter of this year have been financed by 100 per cent loans.

Interest rates are no longer quite so firmly set on the downward path. A sterling crisis on the foreign exchanges could push base (and mortgage) rates two points higher.

Does this mean today's generous credit will be tomorrow's financial albatross?

Not according to the building societies. Donald Kirkham, of the Woolwich, and Jim Murgatroyd, of the Halifax, insist the twin causes of bad debts are unemployment or short-time working, and marital break-up.

Mark Boleat, of the Building Societies Association, says high prices are positively beneficial for borrowers in trouble.

"If prices rise by, say, 20 or 30 per cent, it's always easier to get out of the problem. You have the choice of taking some of the capital to fund the debt, or

selling and moving downmarket." For first-time buyers, however, the only option may be to move out of the market.

Admittedly, a large proportion of the one in three who are buying first time with a 100 per cent loan are buying artificially cheap property, such as council houses. Nevertheless, lenders must be careful not to pay out too much rope to eager borrowers.

"The difference between a loan of £30,000 and £35,000 can be the difference between a good borrower and a bad debtor," says Mr Kirkham. Mr Murgatroyd stresses the need for a conservative view on how much is lent in relation to income.

But how are first-time buyers to finance purchases in expensive markets such as the South-East? The Surrey Building Society will lend three times joint income, while the Halifax's nationwide norm is 2.1. If interest rates rise sharply the generous lender may discover how suddenly kindness can turn into cruelty.

If you are unable to meet your mortgage commitments, the advice from all societies is to see your building society manager right away. The sooner you deal with the problem, the more likely a solution will be.

Franchise catastrophe

On Friday, November 15, 1985, the Young's Franchise Group went into receivership. Ten days later it was bought for £1.5 million by Cyril Spencer, former chairman of the Burton Group. Many franchisees of the La Mama division of Young's, which sold franchises in maternity wear shops, have lost their life savings and face bankruptcy.



The new owner: Cyril Spencer bought the group

When Barclays Bank pulled out of negotiations to rescue the Young's Franchise Group last November, Young's called in the receiver. Barclays was still advertising "preferential terms" available to anyone taking out a franchise with Young's. A leaflet entitled Finance Scheme for Franchisees of Young's Franchise Group, previously produced by Barclays, had not been withdrawn.

Barclays' decision to call in the receiver was very much against the wishes of the British Rail Pension Fund, which had been considering ways of rescuing the company. Fourteen months earlier the fund had invested £750,000 of railwaymen's pension contributions in Young's to acquire a 17 per cent interest. This entire amount was lost when Young's went into receivership.

"The investment looked a very worthwhile proposition at the time," a former member of the British Rail Pension Fund team told The Times last week. "Barclays could have taken a more flexible view."

The former chairman of the Burton Group, Cyril Spencer, who bought Young's from the receiver, has much the same sentiments about Barclays. "Before I even bought the company, I saw Barclays with British Rail and Edward Young and tried to persuade them not to pull the plug," he says. "I even offered to underwrite part of their loan."

"They pulled the plug. They were extremely inflexible, considering the number of people who had their livelihood depending on the company."

Exactly one month before the receivership, on October 15, 1985, a Barclays representative attended the 8th UK Convention of Young's Franchise Group Ltd, held at the Grand Hotel in Eastbourne.

The representative of Barclays addressed a business and financial planning seminar, in terms which gave no indication that the Young's Franchise Group might be in a parlous financial position.

According to franchisees of

the La Mama, maternity wear shops, which were one of the three types of shop franchised by Young's - the other two were the Pronuptia bridal wear shops and the Young's formal menswear shops - he spoke favourably of franchising and of the La Mama franchise.

Barclays was the major creditor

"He said what a good thing franchising was in general and how good the La Mama one was," claims one investor who bought a franchise. "Some of us were already extremely nervous at that time."

So far as the would-be investors in the La Mama franchise were concerned, the fact that Barclays was present at the meeting and seemingly prepared to lend money to those who bought a La Mama franchise was interpreted by

most as an endorsement of La Mama by the bank.

One month later, when the company was in receivership, with Barclays being the major creditor. When Young's was sold on November 25, 1985, just 10 days after the receivership, the vast majority of the £1.5 million realized went to Barclays.

The preferential creditors - the Inland Revenue and National Insurance - took their slice and Barclays got most of the rest. Sources close to the receiver say that even then Barclays was left substantially out of pocket on the deal.

In fairness to Barclays Bank and the view that it took of the La Mama franchisees, Young's is still trading and by all accounts the Pronuptia and Young's franchisees are doing well.

For almost everyone taking out a La Mama franchise the experience has been a financial catastrophe.

At the time of the receivership there were 25 La Mama shops, 23 of which were franchise operations.

We spoke to seven of the 23 La Mama franchisees. They have all lost substantial sums of money, the highest being around £70,000 and the lowest approximately £20,000. Some have already closed down their shops.

La Mama franchisees claim that at a meeting on July 15 the new owners of the Young's Franchise Group told them that 20 out of the 23 La Mama franchises were not currently commercially viable.

Although Barclays representatives were present at the La Mama franchisees' October conference, it is perhaps ironic that most of these franchisees' loans were and are with the National Westminster Bank, which also produced a promotional leaflet.

"National Westminster Bank in conjunction with La Mama has arranged a finance scheme designed to assist franchisees to start up and develop their own La Mama outlet," says the opening paragraph.

The leaflet has the NatWest logo at the top and bottom with the La Mama logo in between.

A list of the people invited to attend the Young's conference one month before the receivership includes Peter Stern from the National Westminster Bank's small business section, and his wife.

Three franchisees had to sell homes

Mr Stern is also named as one of the contacts at the bottom of the NatWest-La Mama leaflet.

At least three of the seven La Mama franchisees to whom we spoke have to sell their homes to pay off their debts, while one has been advised by his lawyers to file for bankruptcy. The seven lost all or part of their life savings to boot.

Some of their stories, which will be told next week, are truly heartrending.

What the banks say

Barclays Bank does not deny that the La Mama promotional leaflet was still in circulation at the time it pulled the plug.

The bank says: "It was not withdrawn. But it merely constituted an approach to make an invitation to our franchise unit."

"Had such an approach been made after the bank had been made aware of any difficulties, such an approach would have been dealt in an appropriate manner."

The Barclays spokesman also confirmed that there was a line of contact between its franchise unit and the branch which handled the financial affairs of the Young's Franchise Group as a whole.

"There was close liaison between the two," the spokesman said.

"We were seeking to sustain the business and a receivership was a means of doing that, protecting the interests of the franchisees. We were confident that the business could be sold out of receivership as a going concern, thereby protecting the interests of the franchisees."

"Had Barclays not responded to the request of the directors to appoint a receiver, liquidation could have ensued, resulting in substantial loss for all concerned."

"We did not actually finance any La Mama franchisees and the last loan to a Young's franchisee we provided was in January 1985, ten months before the receivership."

With regard to Barclays' presence at the Young's conference a week before the receivership, the spokesman says: "The bank's representatives did not address the convention but merely attended on an informal basis as guests."

The National Westminster Bank says that it has asked all the branch managers where the franchisees have their accounts to be as helpful as possible to existing La Mama franchisees.

No advances have been made to new franchisees since the receivership in November 1985.



Pension with a shock

The pension gurus say pension planning is a long-term business. MARTIN BAKER examines the case of one man who tried to make up for lost time and fell foul of the hidden charges

John Hatcher left it too late. He ran a microfilm processing business which, sadly, did not do well. One result was that for 12 years he made no contributions to a pension plan.

When he stopped working for himself he was in his late fifties and realized he had left it very late indeed. He began to work for another company, Data Design, as a graphics manager, in November 1984. He was 58 and concerned about his pension arrangements. He asked for the first three months of his £15,000 salary to be put straight into a pension plan.

The company was small and had no pension arrangements, but Mr Hatcher learned that the chairman, Clive Holmes, had a knowledge of pensions. "I left Mr Holmes in charge of things," says Mr Hatcher. A company scheme was established with Mr Hatcher as the sole subscriber.

After the first three months' salary had been paid in, Mr Hatcher committed £250 every month to the scheme. This was with Abbey Life, for which Mr Holmes had formerly been a salesman. During his 14 months of employment with Data Design, Mr Hatcher ploughed £6,790 into his pension scheme. "I was anxious to improve my pension arrangements," he wrote later to Abbey Life's chairman, Michael Hepher.

Data Design is no longer trading, and Mr Hatcher is out of a job. His pension scheme, however, still exists. When its administrators wrote to Mr Hatcher with an estimate of his pension on retirement he was surprised at what he considered to be a very low figure, and thought about transferring his money into another scheme run by London Life.

Imagine his distress when he discovered that the transfer value of his £6,790 amounted to less than half of the premiums paid - £2,913.52. There are, of course, admin-

istrative costs in transferring the value of an employee's contributions between companies, and this diminishes the value transferred. Again, different actuarial assumptions may cause a lower value to be taken. But the figures, when quoted to Paul Stainbridge, of London & Manchester, sounded "absolutely amazing".

Mr Stainbridge said: "It sounds like a clerical error. Transfer values can carry penalties, but they run at 5 to 10 per cent in most cases. The subscriber should at least have the value of his contributions."

Was it a clerical error? If not, where has the money gone? Some rapid checking-up showed that, in fact, only one of Mr Hatcher's two policies (a regular plan and a lump sum commitment for the first

The money has gone on commission

three months' salary) had been quoted. The true transfer value is £5,857.12. This is better, but still £1,132.78 less than the amount contributed.

A pension scheme, for all the complications of tax breaks on contributions and the like, is no more than an investment. Most of the money goes more or less directly into shares, property and other investments. That Mr Hatcher's money appears to have fallen in value by more than 16 per cent while the world's stock markets have been booming is, to say the least, surprising. For Mr Hatcher it is almost catastrophic.

His apparent losses are to be set against the managed pension fund into which his money went. The fund has, according to Abbey Life, gained 18.5 per cent per year for the past five years. We are left with the question of where the money has gone. The answer is simple - commission to the salesman.

"We are not a charity," says Mr Hepher. It was the standard tale of the intermediary taking his share at the outset of the policies, and the pension company making its money over the duration of the plan.

"With any life assurance or pensions policy you'll be

caned if you surrender it in the first couple of years," says Harry Verney, of Pensions Advisers, an independent pensions consultant. Some charges are levied early on in the life of a plan, while the rest are spread out over its duration. On early encashment or transfer the companies take their profit and the policyholder is left with the rest.

Mr Hepher insists that if Mr Hatcher chose "not to abandon the company, we could offer him an excellent return". But he added: "We cannot subsidize those who break with us at the expense of those clients who stay."

"This sort of charge is a normal life assurance industry situation."

Mr Verney agrees. He finds the transfer value "a little on the low side, but not surprisingly so". Abbey Life is "in the leading third of companies making charges, although middle market in terms of performance".

So where has Mr Hatcher gone wrong? Mr Verney thinks he was wise to get into a pension plan and pour in the money. The tax relief means Mr Hatcher would have seen about £4,000 of his £6,790. It could be argued that he is, in fact, showing a profit. If the company had not ceased trading he would be taking advantage of the tax breaks without suffering the high charges in the early years.

Mr Hatcher says: "As far as I'm concerned there are no early or late years - just five or six left." He is disappointed to have entered a scheme with heavy front-end charges.

Yet Abbey Life's charging structure seems more generous than most in an industry which seems to do very well out of the taxpayer's generosity to pension subscribers.

"A lot of what we do as an industry is justified," says Mr Hepher, "but some of it isn't. The industry will be improved by competition."

Mr Hatcher's practical problem now is whether to transfer to London Life or not. If he does, there may be more early charges - the standard practice in the industry. He is taking independent advice this time. Undoubtedly, though, his biggest mistake was leaving it too late.

A high guaranteed monthly income from gilts.

HOW? Portfolio 30 is a service for investors which combines the advantages of two recent tax rulings. Since July 2nd, all gains from British Government Securities (known as gilts) are exempt from Capital Gains Tax. Within certain clearly defined limits, a regular return can be taken from gilts by converting the interest that accrues day by day into a capital gain which can be paid without deduction of tax. Portfolio 30 offers you a convenient and efficient way of investing up to £5,000 directly into gilts. These are held by an independent custodian and you would be the beneficial owner. You can fix your return for a period up to 10 years. You can choose to receive regular payments either monthly, quarterly, half-yearly or annually. Gilts are one of the most secure investments and carry the backing of the British Government. We invite you to send for a personal quotation, which will show the precise return we can guarantee you.

Form for Portfolio 30 investment details, including name, address, and investment preferences.

Just part-time money-making

As the new crop of graduates launch themselves on the job market, a useful stopgap until a permanent job is found could be part-time work from home. Two writers, Alan and Deborah Fowler, have compiled Making Money Part-Time, to explain the pitfalls and the advantages of different types of part-time work: freezer cooking, modelling, upholstery, furniture-making and clothes-making. The book contains general advice too on basic accounting, marketing, selling, planning and finance. It even covers writing books part-time. Making Money Part-Time is published by Sphere at £3.95.

Expat interest

The Abbey National Building Society is upping the rate of interest paid on its expatriate accounts - the Gross 5 Star Account - from 10.89 per cent (without deduction of tax) to 11 per cent. The account is aimed at investors not normally resident in the UK. The new rate was effective from yesterday and the minimum investment is £500. Withdrawals can be made on demand and without penalty. Investors resident in the UK are not eligible to open a Gross 5 Star Account. Details: Abbey National branches.

Taxman strikes

As the Inland Revenue net closes around small businesses, dealing with a PAYE investigation becomes ever more likely for many companies. Accountants Spicer and Pegler have just produced a 700-page guide on how to cope with PAYE and PAVE investigations by the Revenue. In 1981 there were just over 20,000 PAYE audit inspections. During the past four years that number has more than tripled to yield some £85 million in unpaid tax. No wonder the Revenue is tightening up. "Tax deducted at source

Advertisement for Executive Removals, featuring a cartoon of a van and the text 'WELL, IT'S NOT MY IDEA OF BEING UPWARDLY MOBILE... EXECUTIVE REMOVALS'.

under the PAYE system is now the friend Revenue's biggest single cash flow. No company is safe from a potentially crippling PAYE investigation," explains Michael Reader, the author of the guide and a partner of Spicer and Pegler. The guide, The PAYE/P11D Handbook, is published by Longman Professional and costs £38.

Extending deadline

The new Building Societies Bill now on its way through Parliament is due to come into force next January, but not all its provisions will be implemented immediately. The building societies have asked for more time to establish the Ombudsman scheme and this will now be set up until July 1, 1987. Powers enabling societies to turn themselves into limited companies will also be delayed until January 1988. It has also been decided to scrap the provisions which forbid a loan being dependent on buying some other service from the society, provided the societies can put together a satisfactory Code of Conduct to be introduced by January 1988. The new legislation gives societies wide ranging powers to offer new services, such as conveyancing, insurance and estate agency facilities, as well as allowing them to offer unsecured loans.

Mortgage gamble

If you fancy a gamble on the way interest rates will go, a fixed rate mortgage might be just the thing. The Housing Enquiry Service is offering home loans at 10.25 per cent, fixed for three years. The scheme differs from other fixed rate schemes in that there is no early redemption fee on sale of the property, although there is a fee if you simply re-mortgage. The minimum loan is a fairly high £50,000. There is an arrangement fee of £150 and you will be asked to take out an indemnity insurance for that part of the loan which exceeds 80 per cent of the property's value. Details: Housing Enquiry Service, 8 Manchester Square, London W1M 6AJ (01-935 4267).

Cash warning

Sole traders and partners should try to avoid excessive cash withdrawals from their company in years when profits are low, warn accountants, Clark Whitehill in their latest Business Letter. The Inland Revenue has apparently been challenging some deductions of bank interest in years in which private withdrawals exceeded the current year's profits. And sole traders and partners who run an overdraft on their business bank account could find that the Inland Revenue disallows a deduction for bank interest if you draw out too much of the profits. Full details from Clark Whitehill, 25 New Street Square, London EC4A 3LN. Tel: 01-353 1577.

NSC form

In case you missed the announcement, you can no longer buy National Savings Certificates over the counter in Post Offices. Instead you have to fill in an Application to Purchase when you pay for your certificates. You will then be given a dated receipt. The savings certificates office in Durham will record the purchase in the new computer system and you will be sent a personalized certificate by first class post.

Advertisement for mortgages and re-mortgages, offering 10.25% interest rate.

Advertisement for a 'Maximum Interest Bond' offering 14.65% interest rate.

Form for National Savings Certificate purchase, including fields for name, address, and amount.

FAMILY MONEY/2



Dunstable House, in an idyllic setting by the Thames, became the scene for strife

Riverside wrangles

PROPERTY

The leaseholders of Dunstable House in Marlow, Buckinghamshire, used to have a quiet life in their luxury block overlooking the Thames. But the past three years have seen harrowing legal battles which have left the leaseholders emotionally drained, and their freeholder more than £7,000 out of pocket.

Dunstable House consists of six flats on two floors. Each flat is worth about £100,000. In 1981 the leaseholders and the freeholder, Stanley Clarke, became aware that the roof was in need of substantial repair or renewal.

The following year the freeholder built a penthouse on the roof, and at the same time he laid out the rest of the roof space as a patio garden and re-covered the roof. As early as July 1983 the residents were concerned about the standard of the repairs. Solicitors' letters started flying.

Several of the leaseholders refused to pay their share of the cost of the repairs and they paid only part of the sum due for property insurance. In October 1983 Mr Clarke started court proceedings against one of them, a widow aged 70. He sought to forfeit her lease for non-payment of the amounts due.

Her solicitor explained the outcome: "The freeholder was in America, and he did not give a good enough excuse for not coming back for the hearing. His application to forfeit the lease was dismissed, and the court held that he had overcharged on the insurance."

Costs of £2,740 were awarded against Mr Clarke but he did not pay. The lessee's solicitor had to put a garnishee order on his bank account to recover the money.

A month later the ceiling of the balcony of one of the top-floor flats collapsed. James Robinson, chairman of the Dunstable House Residents' Association, said: "The ceiling collapsed and over 100lb of materials crashed down."

The freeholder refused to accept that the roof was the cause of the problem. Meanwhile, water was penetrating into the flat below. In heavy rain, water came through the ceiling and the elderly flat-owner had to catch the drips in bowls. In her flat and the flat above a black fungal substance appeared on the walls.

The leaseholders continually asked for repairs to the roof to be carried out, but the freeholder appeared to do nothing. Eventually one of the leaseholders, with the support

'Attitude in court was cavalier'

of the residents' association, decided to go to the county court. She claimed Mr Clarke was in breach of his covenant to repair in the lease.

The case was finally decided in February 1986. The leaseholder won the day. The judge said of Mr Clarke's evidence: "His claim of work done, unsupported by any documents, was, to say the least, unconvincing. I find Mr Clarke not to be worthy of belief and I found his attitude in the witness box cavalier."

The leaseholder was awarded £200 towards the cost of redecorating her flat, and £500 general damages. Costs were again awarded against Mr Clarke. This time he is due to pay £4,538 in addition to his own legal fees.

The judge also appointed an independent receiver-manager to ensure that the roof repairs were carried out. The work is due to start on August 11.

Mr Clarke is reluctant to comment but he insists: "There is nothing wrong with the roof." When asked about the contractor who is due to start work on the roof, he said: "I do not know anything about that."

In fact, Mr Clarke has acknowledged receipt of a letter from the receiver-manager which stated: "A contractor has been selected and wishes to commence work on August 11."

Mr Clarke's solicitor was considerably more helpful: "There is a lot of personality in the whole dispute which probably colours things a bit."

But what does Mr Clarke mean when he says there was nothing wrong with the roof? The solicitor says: "I think what that reflects is that the parties never were in agreement and they are still not now. The judge has heard the evidence and made a decision and obviously that does not satisfy everybody."

"Apart from the roofing works which were in dispute, what is not in dispute is that out of doors there is a great deal of maintenance work to be done. That is going entirely as you would expect it."

Mr Robinson does have a final piece of advice for other leaseholders who have problems with their freeholders: "You need a good solicitor who is on the ball, a good surveyor, and a good barrister. When you end up in court with an elderly lady on the point of tears wondering whether she will lose her flat, this litigation business is not to be entered into lightly."

Susan Fieldman



The Robinsons, and the flats full of problems

Advertisement for Gilts. Text: 'FREE GUIDE TO GILTS. GILTS NOW OFFER NEARLY THE HIGHEST REAL RETURN EVER - IT'S TIME TO BUY. Gilts still offer a return of nearly 10% a year - 7 1/2% higher than the current inflation rate! The recent rise in gilt yields represents an excellent new buying opportunity. Interest rates are still forecast to fall further - and remember as they fall the CAPITAL VALUE OF GILTS INCREASES. Aetna's new GILT-EDGED BOND offers one of the MOST COST EFFECTIVE WAYS TO INVEST IN GILTS. *Initial 5% saving over most gilt funds. *Huge cost savings over direct investment. *Gilts are unconditionally guaranteed by the Government. *NO CAPITAL GAINS TAX on profits from Gilts. *Management by Phillips & Drew - voted top for gilt research by 'Institutional Investor' poll. *Fund 13% better than the FT All Stocks Fixed Interest Index since its launch (26/2/86 - 30/7/86) - nearly 4 times more! *Up to 10% a year income facility. LOCK INTO THE REAL RETURN OF GILTS NOW! Aetna is the UK arm of the world's largest publicly quoted insurance group with assets equivalent to £38,000,000,000. Aetna Life Insurance Company Ltd, 401 St. John Street, London EC1V 4QE Reg No 1766220. Please complete and send the coupon in an envelope addressed to Aetna Life Insurance Company Ltd FREEPOST London EC1V 4QE. Or phone our Customer Care Centre - dial 100 and ask the operator for FREEPHONE Aetna. The Centre is open 8am to 8pm each weekday. Please send me my FREE 'Guide to Gilts' and details of the Aetna GILT-EDGED BOND to: Name: Address: Postcode: Name of usual Professional adviser: P.S. If you are self-employed or have no company pension, please tick the box so we can also send you details of Aetna's new Gilt-Edged Pension Bond. Aetna Gilt-Edged BOND logo.

Advertisement for Sussex 90 Day A/C. Text: 'A limited issue of long term interest to investors. When you have at least £5,000 to invest you want the top rate of interest. Look no further than the second issue of the Sussex 90 Day Account. Our 8.25% net is equal to 11.62% gross assuming you pay tax at the basic rate. But don't look for too long, this is a limited issue only. SUSSEX 90 DAY A/C - SECOND ISSUE - 8.25% NET. MINIMUM INVESTMENT £5,000. AFTER 90 DAYS' INVESTMENT, 90 DAYS' NOTICE OR 90 DAYS' LOSS OF INTEREST. *Interest rates are variable. Balances below £5,000 pay 5.25% net = 7.39% gross. To: Sussex County Building Society, FREEPOST, Friars Walk, Lewes, East Sussex BN7 2LW. I/We enclose a cheque number _____ for £ _____ to be invested in the Sussex Ninety Day Account (Second Issue). FULL NAME(S) ADDRESS POSTCODE SIGNATURE(S) DATE SUSSEX COUNTY BUILDING SOCIETY We'll give you a little help with your dream.

Large graphic advertisement for Abbey National Higher Interest Account. The graphic consists of a large number '8' formed by the words 'ABBEE NATIONAL' repeated many times. Text: 'Just £500 nets you a big 8%.' Below the graphic is a form to request more information.

Form for Abbey National Higher Interest Account. Text: 'If you leave your money in an Abbey National Higher Interest Account for a year, that 8% grows to 8.16%. This is the net compounded annual rate when your half-yearly interest remains invested. Or you can take your interest as a monthly income. We'll happily pay it into any one of several Abbey National accounts or your bank account. INSTANT ACCESS Should you need your money instantly, it's yours, subject to 90 days' loss of interest. Alternatively, give us 90 days' notice or leave a balance of £10,000 or more after withdrawal and you'll enjoy instant access without losing a penny. There's no limit to how much you invest. And getting Abbey National's Higher Interest couldn't be easier. We've even provided a larger than average coupon for you to fill in. To: Dept. HY, Abbey National Building Society, FREEPOST, 201 Grafton Gate East, MILTON KEYNES MK9 1DA. I/We enclose a cheque for £ _____ to be invested in a Higher Interest Account at my/our local branch in _____. Please send me full details and an application card. I/We understand the rate may vary. I/We would like: A. the interest added to the account half-yearly [] B. to take advantage of the monthly income facility [] Full name(s) Mr/Mrs/Miss _____ Address _____ Postcode _____ Telephone _____ Signature(s) _____ Date _____ Get the Abbey Habit logo.

Vertical text on the left margin: 'th a shock', 'has gone', 'Mortgage gamble', 'Cash warning', 'NSC form'.

FAMILY MONEY/3

Banks set to jump on the bandwagon

SHARES/1

The big banks are beginning to warm to the idea of a share-owning democracy. Having noticed the huge response to the British Telecom issue they are now presumably expecting something similar with the flotations of the Trustee Savings Bank in September and British Gas in October.

The thought of all those nice dealing commissions just waiting to be picked up may not be making the banks drool, but they are clearly attracted.

Barclays was first off the mark, announcing that it has specially established a new Stock Exchange member company, Barclayshare, to offer share-dealing facilities to the man in the street.

National Westminster also intends to set up a share service, though more modestly to offer a special dealing facility in British Gas shares.

Barclayshare will not become operational until January when it will start offering a service for people investing in a Personal Equity Plan, the share investment scheme with tax incentives being promoted by the Government.

You will be able to invest

regularly in your PEP, transferring money from your Barclays account to your Barclayshare account, and Barclayshare will look after the rest.

It will manage the share portfolio on a discretionary basis (it makes the investment decisions, not you) and will look after all the paperwork such as registering your holdings and keeping your share certificates safe.

The service will cost an annual management fee. Barclays is not disclosing exactly how much this will be, but promises that it will be competitive. Other details of the plan are also not available as the precise form of the PEP scheme will not be certain until legislation has brought them into existence.

Further into the future the bank will be offering a regular share-dealing service to customers — a pilot scheme in selected branches is starting next year and the service may become nationwide by the end of the year.

Barclays customers will be able to buy and sell shares over the counter in Barclays branches, making their investment decisions themselves.

Again, Barclays will not say exactly what the commission

BANK

MOST OF OUR OVERDRAWN ACCOUNTS BELONG TO OUR BIGGEST SHARE-BUYERS — DO YOU THINK THERE'S A CONNECTION?



charges will be but insists they will be cheaper than its present charges. In common with most other banks it charges the normal broker's commission plus the minimum extra cost of £5 per transaction.

The new service will not just be a cut-price, no-frills broking service because free investment advice will be available by telephoning the Barclayshare central office.

Barclays Bank branch staff,

however, will not be authorized to give advice. There will be share price screens in the branches so that customers can check how the stock market is moving.

One word of caution, though. The bank says that where possible deals will be channelled through Barclays de Zoete Wedd, its securities and investment banking arm.

That means there is a danger you might not get the best price on the deal but only the

price BZW is prepared to quote.

But Barclays insists that it will transact deals on a "best price" basis and will continue to use a wide range of brokers to do so. It will be up to customers to keep an eye on the buying and selling prices they are being offered to make sure that they really are getting the best.

Richard Thomson
Banking Correspondent

The road show for investors

SHARES/2

British Gas is hitting the road. A huge publicity campaign has been set in motion for the November flotation of the company, involving television and newspaper advertising and 16 road shows. The intention is to bring the biggest government sell-off yet to our attention, whether we like it or not.

The road shows are aimed at professional advisers and intermediaries, while the public can call a share information office in Bristol or drop into their local gas showroom for a pack of information, including a brochure on British Gas, and a booklet on how to buy and sell shares.

Furthermore, you will receive a leaflet advertising the issue with your next gas bill. The leaflets are going out at the rate of quarter of a million a day.

Once an inquiry has been made to the Bristol office the caller will automatically be sent further information on the flotation as it becomes available, and, when the time comes to buy (or not), a prospectus and application form.

But the advisers are keeping

some matters fairly close to their chests. Although we know that British Gas employees will be able to purchase shares at a discount, and that gas consumers will receive favourable treatment, we do not know who will be regarded as a "consumer".

Owner-occupiers with their names on the gas bill obviously qualify for the privilege of a discount on bills or a bonus share issue. Tenants and those who share a gas supply may not be so lucky — only one application per metered gas supply will receive the benefits.

If you decide to buy and sell straightaway you will certainly lose the right to any shareholder perks. As yet there are no details of how shares are to be bought and sold. The Post Office or even British Gas showrooms may or may not be involved. But dealing in the shares "will be quite easy", according to the merchant bankers responsible for the issue.

But is it going to be a good investment? The balance of stockbroker opinion is favourable, although the nosedive in the price of oil has made many rather pessimistic about energy-related stocks. The short and rather easy answer is that it is far too early to tell because of the large number of variables that influence the issue — the price of the shares, the state of the stock market and the future for oil all have to be considered.

The Government is trying to sell British Gas to more people than ever before. British Telecom attracted 2.3 million subscribers, and the bankers behind the issue want to improve on that. It seems that if they want to make sure of that objective for such a big company — it should bring in at least twice and possibly three times as much as BT — the flotation will have to be cheap.

A telephone hotline will be set up at the Bristol information office this month. If you want information now, write to British Gas Share Information Office, PO Box 1, Bristol BS99 1BG.

Martin Baker

PEP specialists on the line

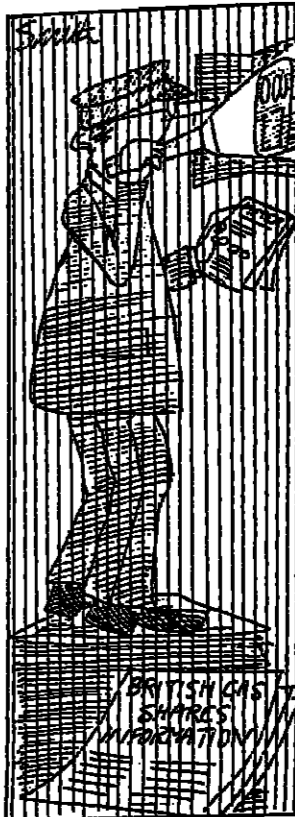
Fund managers Fidelity are setting up a special team of investment advisers to answer questions on Personal Equity Plans, and their telephone advice service (0800 41461) is now in operation.

Success in running PEPs and keeping costs to a minimum will depend very much on the right computer systems. Critics of the scheme have said the administrative costs and marketing charges would more than cancel out all the tax advantages.

"We already have the computer systems in place for PEPs and I believe we are better placed than any of our competitors to handle the administration," said Barry Bateman, Fidelity Investment Services managing director.



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RACING: STOUTE'S GLORIOUS STREAK LOOKS ALL SET TO CONTINUE

Maysoon in festival mood

By Mandarin

Maysoon is a confident choice to continue Michael Stoute's record-breaking season by winning the Vodafone Nassau Stakes on the closing afternoon of Goodwood's five-day summer festival.

After winning Newbury's Fred Darling Stakes and finishing second in the 1,000 Guineas, Maysoon was sent to Epsom, where she was third to Midway Lady and Untold. A furlong and a half from home backers of Walter Swinburn's mount were already counting their winnings, so easily was the filly travelling. But her stamina then gave out as Midway Lady swept to victory.

Park Express has always been held in high regard by Jim Bolger, and she justified her trainer's faith in no uncertain fashion when beating Mill On The Floss and Santiki in the Lancashire Oaks at Haydock. Stamina is obviously her strong suit and the Irish-trained filly could be the one to exploit any chink in the favourite's armour.

Of the other runners, Asteroid Field ran well when second to Maysoon at Newbury but disappointed in the Oaks. English Spring ran the race of her life when beating Bedtime at Ascot but was subsequently performed indifferently in Ireland. Dick Hern's Cocotte won a Bath maiden by 10 lengths, but would have to show dramatic improvement to trouble Maysoon, who is the subject of glowing reports from Newmarket.

The Racial Chesterfield Cup looks certain to be a far more keenly contested affair. King's Head, the top weight, ran a storming race for Guy Harwood when third from an impossible draw to Patriarch in the Royal Hunt Cup. Patriarch continued the excellence of the form in his subsequent win in the Banbury Cup and King's Head is sure to make a bold bid despite his inevitable rise in the weights.

No-one has a better record in big handicaps this season than Patriarch's trainer, John Dunlop. Sultan Mohamed, the Arundel handier, is a candidate on this occasion, is clearly a progressive three-year-old and looks reasonably treated for his venture in this kind of company. The evergreen Mailman, Albert Hall and Master Line are others with obvious chances but King's Head gets the vote.

The afternoon starts with the Berkshire Electronic Maiden Stakes. Here my best advice is for Henry Cecil's candidate, Kristal Rock, a chestnut colt



Chinoiserie on the way to victory in yesterday's Exel Stakes at Goodwood from his stable companion Celestial Storm (left) (Photograph: Tim Bishop)

by Kris, who is a grandson of the 1,000 Guineas and Oaks winner, Altesse Royale. Other likely winners on the Sussex track are Roysia Boy, Gaelic Flutter and Island Set.

Roysia Boy has been working his way down the handicap and now looks weighted to beat Mammoth and Lonely Street in the Albert Stakes. Gaelic Flutter, recently a comfortable winner of a Wolverhampton handicap for Kim Brasse, should find Codices and Local Silver to be his principal opponents in the Surplice Stakes. And Island Set, runner-up to the progressive Albert Hall at Haydock looks as though his winning

turn may have arrived in the Trundle Stakes.

Newmarket features the Colman Knowledge Stakes and the Mail on Sunday three-year-old handicap. No less than five of those declared for the sponsored nursery were successful last time out and Panache was also first past the post at Leicester before being disqualified and placed third. However Peter Easterby's southern raiders are always to be feared and Fall Of Pride, an easy winner at Newbury before finishing runner-up to Ongoing Situation at Fontenay, appears to be on an appealing mark.

Back in the Hunt and flat out for the title

By Christopher Goulding

The proper sport, National Hunt racing is back with us today with meetings taking place at Newton Abbot and Market Rasen. The prize money might not amount to much, but the enthusiasm will be brimming from all quarters.

It is the jockeys' championship which is the focus of attention. Peter Scudamore, the champion last season, rode only 91 winners, the lowest figure for 11 years. This emphasized that the sport of horse racing is becoming more evenly spread, due to the retirement of John Francombe, who dominated the championship for seven seasons. Phil Tuck, who will be first jockey to the Paddy Brennan, Gordon Richards, this year, has the right stable behind him to become a champion jockey. The last time the championship was won by a northern-based rider was in 1979/80, when the now retired John O'Neill collected the title. Richards said: "If I have a good season Phil will become the champion. Richards and I have both had the same former stable jockeys, Ron Barry and John O'Neill, to win the championship.

Tuck, who has already shown his prowess as a top class jockey when he won the Chester Chase Gold Cup on Burrough Hill Lad, said yesterday: "I am looking forward to the new season; Gordon has a lot of ammunition. At the moment I am still living at Ampleforth in Yorkshire, but I soon expect to move closer to the stables. I will continue to ride for Mick Easterby, who I ride out for most mornings."

At Newton Abbot, Martin Pipe, the leading trainer, usually with 70 winners last season, can open his account. Pipe has three runners at the meeting, and his best hope lies with Hever in the Hampshire Selling Handicap. John Tinkler, who always has his stable geared for the early season meetings, last year saddled three winners on the opening day. His best chance at Newton Abbot is Red Zebra, a recent winner on the flat, in the Disney News Handicap.

Peter Walwyn, who is better known for his success on the flat, can win the first race on the card at Market Rasen with Parang. Half Shaft, who is fit from a recent outing on the flat, can get a good start. A good chance for Arthur Stephenson, off to a good start.

GOODWOOD

Televised: 2.15, 2.45, 3.25

Going: good to firm, straight course; firm, round course

Draw: 51-61, high numbers best

- 1.6 BERKSHIRE ELECTRONICS MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £4,142: 6f) (8 runners)
102 DYNAMIC STAR (C) Ozari M Usher 9-0 ... M McGinnis 9
103 EVER SHARP (R) Robson J Colner 9-0 ... J Johnson 9
104 KRISTAL ROCK (M) V. Cecil 9-0 ... V. Cecil 9
105 ROYAL LARK (R) J. Bolger 9-0 ... J. Bolger 9
106 RUMINANT LUCK (R) K. Harrison 9-0 ... W. Carson 5
107 STARVILLE (USA) M. G. Storrant 9-0 ... B. Thompson 4
108 SUPERB LUNG (R) M. G. Storrant 9-0 ... B. Thompson 4
109 MISS DAISY (Greenland Park Ltd) B. J. B. ... P. Ebdery 2
110 NIMBUS (R) M. G. Storrant 9-0 ... B. Thompson 4
111 NIMBUS (R) M. G. Storrant 9-0 ... B. Thompson 4
112 NIMBUS (R) M. G. Storrant 9-0 ... B. Thompson 4
113 NIMBUS (R) M. G. Storrant 9-0 ... B. Thompson 4
4-5 Kristal Rock, 4-1 Miss Daisy, 9-2 Starville, 8-1 Super Lung, 14-1 Mummy's Luck, 20-1 others.

Goodwood selections

By Mandarin

2.15 Kristal Rock, 2.45 King's Head, 3.25 MAYSOON (nap), 4.0 Roysia Boy, 4.30 Gaelic Flutter, 5.0 Island Set.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.15 Kristal Rock, 2.45 Atoka, 3.25 Maysoon, 4.0 Roysia Boy, 4.30 Prince Orac, 5.0 Island Set.

By Michael Seely

3.35 MAYSOON (nap), 4.0 Lonely Street.

2.45 RACAL CHESTERFIELD CUP (Handicap: £16,466: 1m 2f) (11)

- 1003 KING'S HEAD (USA) (W) G. Harwood 4-0-10 ... G. Shielby 5
206 2-32314 PROMISED ISLAND (R) (E) Lady Roysia 5-0-2 ... T. O'Donnell 4
102 48-1212 SULTAN MOHAMED (M) (D) D. Storrant 3-0-12 ... W. Carson 5
104 19-0826 RATTAL (M) (D) D. Storrant 3-0-12 ... W. Carson 5
212 42520A RANA PRATAP (USA) (M) G. Thomey 4-0-11 ... P. Wainwright 7
213 00001 GUNDEDA (R) (M) M. Carrington-Smith 4-0-9 ... S. Cuddeback 4
100 400-003 MALLARD (R) (M) G. Thomey 4-0-9 ... S. Cuddeback 4
212 00001 RUNNING FLUSH (R) (M) G. Thomey 4-0-9 ... S. Cuddeback 4
217 02211 ALBERT HALL (USA) (R) J. Bolger 4-0-9 ... J. Bolger 9
218 04201 MASTER LINE (GB) (R) M. G. Storrant 4-0-9 ... B. Thompson 4
220 001134 ATOKA (GB) (R) (M) J. Bolger 4-0-9 ... J. Bolger 9
11-4 Albert Hall, 7-2 King's Head, 11-2 Sultan Mohamed, 13-2 Running Flush, 15-2 Atoka, 20-1 Master Line, 14-1 Meehan, Gunduda, Promised Isle, 16-1 others.

3.25 VODAFONE NASSAU STAKES (Group II; fillies: £33,045: 1m 2f) (7)

- 301 44101 ENGLISH SPRING (USA) (P) M. G. Storrant 4-0-8 ... S. Cuddeback 4
302 12322 MATSYON (M) M. G. Storrant 3-0-8 ... W. Carson 5
303 130441 PARK EXPRESS (R) (M) J. Bolger 3-0-8 ... J. Bolger 9
304 19-0826 RATTAL (M) (D) D. Storrant 3-0-12 ... W. Carson 5
305 123-001 COCOTTE (F) M. G. Storrant 3-0-8 ... W. Carson 5
310 123-001 TENDER LIVING CARVE (R) (P) M. G. Storrant 3-0-8 ... W. Carson 5
311 123-001 TENDER LIVING CARVE (R) (P) M. G. Storrant 3-0-8 ... W. Carson 5
312 123-001 TENDER LIVING CARVE (R) (P) M. G. Storrant 3-0-8 ... W. Carson 5
13-6 Maysoon, 7-2 Park Express, 5-1 English Spring, 7-1 Asteroid Field, 6-1 Traimee, Cocotte, 20-1 Tender Living Carve.

4.0 ALBERT HANDICAP (£4,877: 6f) (8)

- 401 00021 MANHATTAN (R) (S) Brewer P Maken 6-0-10 ... J. Field 8
402 00-1030 PRECIOUS METAL (C) (G) Moore A 3-0-3 ... R. Cresswell 4
403 21-0200 FLYAWAY (R) (M) G. Thomey 3-0-3 ... P. Ebdery 7
404 001214 FERRYMAN (R) (M) P. M. G. Storrant 3-0-3 ... W. Carson 5
405 001214 FERRYMAN (R) (M) P. M. G. Storrant 3-0-3 ... W. Carson 5
413 001214 FERRYMAN (R) (M) P. M. G. Storrant 3-0-3 ... W. Carson 5
414 001214 FERRYMAN (R) (M) P. M. G. Storrant 3-0-3 ... W. Carson 5
415 001214 FERRYMAN (R) (M) P. M. G. Storrant 3-0-3 ... W. Carson 5
100-2000 LOWLY STREET (C) (F) Lyons B 4-0-7 ... M. Adams 1
100-2000 LOWLY STREET (C) (F) Lyons B 4-0-7 ... M. Adams 1
100-2000 LOWLY STREET (C) (F) Lyons B 4-0-7 ... M. Adams 1
100-2000 LOWLY STREET (C) (F) Lyons B 4-0-7 ... M. Adams 1
11-4 Prince Orac, 4-1 English Spring, 9-2 Gaelic Flutter, 6-1 Local Silver, Cocotte, 10-1 Censara, Highest, 14-1 Bronzan, 20-1 others.

4.30 SURPLICE STAKES (3-Y-O: £4,305: 1m) (11)

- 501 940-001 CODICES USA (P) Lough G Harwood 9-0 ... G. Shielby 5
502 200-301 GAELIC FLUTTER (R) (C) Chalk B Bracey 9-0 ... W. Carson 5
503 0-1 LOCAL SILVER (USA) (R) G. Thomey 9-0 ... W. Carson 5
504 0-1 LOCAL SILVER (USA) (R) G. Thomey 9-0 ... W. Carson 5
505 20-40 ALI UNWAN (R) (M) J. Dunlop ... P. Ebdery 7
506 0-1 BRONZE OVAL (USA) (M) E. Wainwright 9-0 ... W. Carson 5
507 0-1 BRONZE OVAL (USA) (M) E. Wainwright 9-0 ... W. Carson 5
508 0-1 BRONZE OVAL (USA) (M) E. Wainwright 9-0 ... W. Carson 5
509 0-1 BRONZE OVAL (USA) (M) E. Wainwright 9-0 ... W. Carson 5
510 0-1 BRONZE OVAL (USA) (M) E. Wainwright 9-0 ... W. Carson 5
511 0-1 BRONZE OVAL (USA) (M) E. Wainwright 9-0 ... W. Carson 5
512 0-1 BRONZE OVAL (USA) (M) E. Wainwright 9-0 ... W. Carson 5
513 0-1 BRONZE OVAL (USA) (M) E. Wainwright 9-0 ... W. Carson 5
514 0-1 BRONZE OVAL (USA) (M) E. Wainwright 9-0 ... W. Carson 5
515 0-1 BRONZE OVAL (USA) (M) E. Wainwright 9-0 ... W. Carson 5
11-4 Prince Orac, 4-1 English Spring, 9-2 Gaelic Flutter, 6-1 Local Silver, Cocotte, 10-1 Censara, Highest, 14-1 Bronzan, 20-1 others.

5.0 TRUNDLE HANDICAP (£4,752: 1m 4f) (8)

- 603 3030-40 RUSTY LAD (M) Banks G Harwood 4-0-7 ... G. Shielby 5
604 411-022 ILUSTY SET (USA) (R) (G) Keller L Cuman 4-0-1 ... P. Ebdery 7
605 411-022 ILUSTY SET (USA) (R) (G) Keller L Cuman 4-0-1 ... P. Ebdery 7
606 411-022 ILUSTY SET (USA) (R) (G) Keller L Cuman 4-0-1 ... P. Ebdery 7
607 411-022 ILUSTY SET (USA) (R) (G) Keller L Cuman 4-0-1 ... P. Ebdery 7
608 411-022 ILUSTY SET (USA) (R) (G) Keller L Cuman 4-0-1 ... P. Ebdery 7
609 411-022 ILUSTY SET (USA) (R) (G) Keller L Cuman 4-0-1 ... P. Ebdery 7
610 411-022 ILUSTY SET (USA) (R) (G) Keller L Cuman 4-0-1 ... P. Ebdery 7
611 411-022 ILUSTY SET (USA) (R) (G) Keller L Cuman 4-0-1 ... P. Ebdery 7
612 411-022 ILUSTY SET (USA) (R) (G) Keller L Cuman 4-0-1 ... P. Ebdery 7
613 411-022 ILUSTY SET (USA) (R) (G) Keller L Cuman 4-0-1 ... P. Ebdery 7
614 411-022 ILUSTY SET (USA) (R) (G) Keller L Cuman 4-0-1 ... P. Ebdery 7
615 411-022 ILUSTY SET (USA) (R) (G) Keller L Cuman 4-0-1 ... P. Ebdery 7
11-4 Prince Orac, 4-1 English Spring, 9-2 Gaelic Flutter, 6-1 Local Silver, Cocotte, 10-1 Censara, Highest, 14-1 Bronzan, 20-1 others.

NEWMARKET

Televised: 1.30, 2.0, 2.30.

Going: good

Draw: no advantage

1.30 BROOKE BOND COFFEE CUP (Amateur: £2,265: 1m 4f) (15 runners)

- 4 0411 SARVAM (R) N. G. Storrant 3-11-2 ... T. Thompson 14
6 000 HIGH FOREST M. Hinchell 4-1-1 ... G. Shielby 5
8 0-40 PELEGRIN (R) M. G. Storrant 4-1-1 ... L. Lay 12
9 0-40 PELEGRIN (R) M. G. Storrant 4-1-1 ... L. Lay 12
10 0-40 PELEGRIN (R) M. G. Storrant 4-1-1 ... L. Lay 12
11 0-40 PELEGRIN (R) M. G. Storrant 4-1-1 ... L. Lay 12
12 0-40 PELEGRIN (R) M. G. Storrant 4-1-1 ... L. Lay 12
13 0-40 PELEGRIN (R) M. G. Storrant 4-1-1 ... L. Lay 12
14 0-40 PELEGRIN (R) M. G. Storrant 4-1-1 ... L. Lay 12
15 0-40 PELEGRIN (R) M. G. Storrant 4-1-1 ... L. Lay 12
16 0-40 PELEGRIN (R) M. G. Storrant 4-1-1 ... L. Lay 12
17 0-40 PELEGRIN (R) M. G. Storrant 4-1-1 ... L. Lay 12
18 0-40 PELEGRIN (R) M. G. Storrant 4-1-1 ... L. Lay 12
19 0-40 PELEGRIN (R) M. G. Storrant 4-1-1 ... L. Lay 12
20 0-40 PELEGRIN (R) M. G. Storrant 4-1-1 ... L. Lay 12
21 0-40 PELEGRIN (R) M. G. Storrant 4-1-1 ... L. Lay 12
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23 0-40 PELEGRIN (R) M. G. Storrant 4-1-1 ... L. Lay 12
24 0-40 PELEGRIN (R) M. G. Storrant 4-1-1 ... L. Lay 12
25 0-40 PELEGRIN (R) M. G. Storrant 4-1-1 ... L. Lay 12
26 0-40 PELEGRIN (R) M. G. Storrant 4-1-1 ... L. Lay 12
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84 0-40 PELEGRIN (R) M. G. Storrant 4-1-1 ... L. Lay 12
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93 0-40 PELEGRIN (R) M. G. Storrant 4-1-1 ... L. Lay 12
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98 0-40 PELEGRIN (R) M. G. Storrant 4-1-1 ... L. Lay 12
99 0-40 PELEGRIN (R) M. G. Storrant 4-1-1 ... L. Lay 12
100 0-40 PELEGRIN (R) M. G. Storrant 4-1-1 ... L. Lay 12

Newmarket selections

By Mandarin

1.30 Shibit, 2.0 Reality, 2.30 Fall Of Pride, 3.0 Nardavano, 3.30 Lone Galaxie, 4.0 Taffy Templar, 4.30 Blender's Choice.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

1.30 Sarvan, 2.0 Something Casual, 2.30 Homing In, 3.0 Nardavano, 3.30 Touch The Sall, 4.0 Taffy Templar, 4.30 Lastcomer.

By Michael Seely's selection: 2.30 Full Of Pride.

2.0 MAIL ON SUNDAY 3-Y-O SERIES HANDICAP (£4,123: 1m) (13)

- 1 1-11 CHEER (R) R. Johnson 4-0-9 ... R. Johnson 9
2 1-11 CHEER (R) R. Johnson 4-0-9 ... R. Johnson 9
3 1-11 CHEER (R) R. Johnson 4-0-9 ... R. Johnson 9
4 1-11 CHEER (R) R. Johnson 4-0-9 ... R. Johnson 9
5 1-11 CHEER (R) R. Johnson 4-0-9 ... R. Johnson 9
6 1-11 CHEER (R) R. Johnson 4-0-9 ... R. Johnson 9
7 1-11 CHEER (R) R. Johnson 4-0-9 ... R. Johnson 9
8 1-11 CHEER (R) R. Johnson 4-0-9 ... R. Johnson 9
9 1-11 CHEER (R) R. Johnson 4-0-9 ... R. Johnson 9
10 1-11 CHEER (R) R. Johnson 4-0-9 ... R. Johnson 9
11 1-11 CHEER (R) R. Johnson 4-0-9 ... R. Johnson 9
12 1-11 CHEER (R) R. Johnson 4-0-9 ... R. Johnson 9
13 1-11 CHEER (R) R. Johnson 4-0-9 ... R. Johnson 9

2.30 COLMANS OF NORWICH NURSERY HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £10,098: 6f) (13)

- 201 201 BUTTERFLY (R) J. Dunlop 9-7 ... M. Hills 9
202 201 BUTTERFLY (R) J. Dunlop 9-7 ... M. Hills 9
203 201 BUTTERFLY (R) J. Dunlop 9-7 ... M. Hills 9
204 201 BUTTERFLY (R) J. Dunlop 9-7 ... M. Hills 9
205 201 BUTTERFLY (R) J. Dunlop 9-7 ... M. Hills 9
206 201 BUTTERFLY (R) J. Dunlop 9-7 ... M. Hills 9
207 201 BUTTERFLY (R) J. Dunlop 9-7 ... M. Hills 9
208 201 BUTTERFLY (R) J. Dunlop 9-7 ... M. Hills 9
209 201 BUTTERFLY (R) J. Dunlop 9-7 ... M. Hills 9
210 201 BUTTERFLY (R) J. Dunlop 9-7 ... M. Hills 9
211 201 BUTTERFLY (R) J. Dunlop 9-7 ... M. Hills 9
212 201 BUTTERFLY (R) J. Dunlop 9-7 ... M. Hills 9
213 201 BUTTERFLY (R) J. Dunlop 9-7 ... M. Hills 9

NEWMARKET EVENING RESULTS

7.15 1, S S Santo (R) Morse, 11-2; 2, Highest Note (11-2); 3, Max. Crown (7-2); 4, ...

NEWMARKET EVENING RESULTS

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NEWMARKET

Televised: 1.30, 2.0, 2.30.

Going: good

Draw: no advantage

1.30 BROOKE BOND COFFEE CUP (Amateur: £2,265: 1m 4f) (15 runners)

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22 0-40 PELEGRIN (R) M. G. Storrant 4-1-1 ... L. Lay 12
23 0-40 PELEGRIN (R) M. G. Storrant 4-1-1 ... L. Lay 12
24 0-40 PELEGRIN (R) M. G. Storrant 4-1-1 ... L. Lay 12
25 0-40 PE

Three badminton golds for England

Canadian wrestlers are stopped short



Canadians shade England in ring

New Zealand take second bowls title

Unique project that can benefit competitors from smaller countries

By David Miller

The anguish of little Bermuda may not have been in vain. The Commonwealth Games can be saved from future political disruption...

refundable £5 per head deposit. Many of the smaller Commonwealth nations are desperate for realistic competition...

The initiators are Douglas Calder and Robert Newman of the Cayman Islands. The Island Games would be in the year following an Olympics...

Such a declaration, a kind of Gleneagles in reverse, would place the responsibility on government instead of member associations...

Today's events

ATHLETICS (at Meadowbank): 12.30: Men's javelin final; 12.45: Men's 1500m final; 1.00: Women's 1500m final; 1.05: Men's shot final; 1.20: Women's 4 x 100m relay final; 1.45: Men's 4 x 100m relay final; 1.55: Men's 1500m final; 2.05: Women's 4 x 400m relay final; 3.05: Men's 4 x 400m relay final; 3.30: Closing ceremony.

There are some 37 eligible islands such as Bahrain and Iceland, yet excluded by the IOC...

It has not, after all setbacks of boycotts, intimidating Scottish weather and widespread inefficiency, been a bad Games as seen by the public...

It is Bob Newman's intention to include the more social sports of tennis and squash, popular among residents on tourist islands...

It was a pity about the absence of Coe, but we shall remember famous names like Je Castell, Johnson, Cram, Redgrave and Sze Yu-ang...

A clause which could be written into the constitution would be a £100 per competitor refundable deposit to be paid six months in advance.

West Indies Test team in the Twenties. The feeling that small countries within the Commonwealth Federation should be encouraged may favour Cardiff in their bid to get the 1994 Games...

Cardiff is politically united, like Birmingham for the Olympics, in its attempt. Lord Brooks, a life-long socialist, has promised to raise £40,000 towards the promotion of the bid...

Watkins, with plans already underway for a new athletics stadium at the north side of the road from Ninian Park, the home of Cardiff City, has been planning the campaign for over two years...

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Pole position: Andrew Ashurst, of England, taking gold

Faith pays dividend for Loban

By Philip Nickson

Noel Loban, England's light-heavyweight wrestler, went into his final against Doug Cox, of Canada, quoting the bible to himself...

After moving three points ahead in the first round he found himself at the receiving end of a clever Canadian tactic. Unable to overcome his opponent by outright wrestling, the Canadian managed to manoeuvre Loban into appearing passive.

Keeping cool, however, Loban took over tactical command. With two minutes to go, and five seconds to spare, he let the Canadian take a time ebb away, and the title came closer.

Asked about a possible future as a professional, he said he would do nothing but what he had talked things over with his wife. It was she who had made

Dickson survives his final gold test

By Gordon Allan

New Zealand's Ian Dickson, 24, won the men's singles gold medal at Balglen yesterday when he beat Richard Corsie, aged 19, of Scotland, 21-12.

He is the second New Zealander to win the gold, the first being James Pirret at Auckland in 1950. With Peter Bell having won the World Championship at Aberdeen two years ago, New Zealand now hold the world's two principal singles titles.

Dickson began preparing five months ago. His abductor club, the Leith, put a specially treated green at his disposal so that he could become accustomed to the heavy conditions expected in Edinburgh.

Wendy Line (England) won the women's singles gold medal on shot difference. Her closest rival, Senga McCrone (Scotland), had to beat Joan Humphreys (Hong Kong) and Eileen Whirling (Ireland) to take the gold, but lost 21-11 to Mrs Humphreys and took the silver.

Asked about a possible future as a professional, he said he would do nothing but what he had talked things over with his wife. It was she who had made

England exceed their hopes in taking five titles

By Srikanar Sen, Boxing Correspondent



Even if the medals have been somewhat devalued by the absence of the Africans, the record books will show England excelled themselves at Ingliston.

For they not only surpassed their remarkable achievements in the British Commonwealth when every member of the elite strong team came back with a medal, but also increased their gold tally from two in these games to five.

But he was not sure how many he would lose to the professionals and it was not surprising to hear him say that he was most displeased at the BBC using Terry Lawless, Britain's most successful professional manager, as a commentator.

Two other England boxers at the Games are also to receive grants. John Lyon, flyweight, and Sean Murphy, bantamweight.

Stopping Leonard Makhanya, of Swaziland, Lyon boxed smartly. He stood out the way that Makhanya's right hand that knocked out Kerry Webber, of Wales. Lyon moved in and out with well-timed punches scoring with both hands and though in the second round Makhanya did catch the Englishman with two quick left hands, they were thrown off and knocked him to the floor with a left.

Sean Murphy gave England another good when he stopped Roy Nash, of Northern Ireland, in the third round. Murphy never let Nash get his boxing going and floored him.

wobbled but refused to go down. The best development was to see the affair with Douglas throwing the cleaner and better shots, but Harding to cries of "Assie Aussie" gave some back and was fighting well right to the end.

Earlier, Mark Epton, the flyweight, was impressively defeated by Sean Olson, of Canada. The diminutive Olson gave Epton no time at all to get used to the height difference and from the first bell got stuck into the Englishman with a beautiful right hand. Epton tried to get his left hand going but the little Canadian went to work inside the Englishman and belaboured him with both hands forcing him to take standing counts in the second round.

This defeat however was quickly rectified as John Lyon at flyweight picked up his first Commonwealth Games gold by

stopping Leonard Makhanya, of Swaziland. Lyon boxed smartly. He stood out the way that Makhanya's right hand that knocked out Kerry Webber, of Wales. Lyon moved in and out with well-timed punches scoring with both hands and though in the second round Makhanya did catch the Englishman with two quick left hands, they were thrown off and knocked him to the floor with a left.

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REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

Continued from facing page

SATURDAY

BBC1: WALES, 8.50pm-9.25 Sports News Wales, SCOTLAND, 8.50pm-9.25 Scottish News and Sport, NORTHERN IRELAND, 8.50pm-9.25 Northern News and Sport, ENGLAND, 8.50pm-9.25 London and South-West, 8.50pm-9.25 Light Sport and News. All other English regions - Regional News and Sport.

CHANNEL: As London except: 7.55pm-8.00pm Survival of the Fittest 11.30-12.00pm On 12.15pm Mog 12.45-1.15pm The Blues 1.30pm-1.45pm

TVS: As London except: 8.25pm-8.50pm Survival of the Fittest 11.30-12.00pm On 12.15pm Mog 12.45-1.15pm The Blues 1.30pm-1.45pm

HTV WEST: As London except: 7.55pm-8.00pm Survival of the Fittest 11.30-12.00pm On 12.15pm Mog 12.45-1.15pm The Blues 1.30pm-1.45pm

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Aggressive Baddeley's gold raid

By Richard Eaton



Steve Baddeley ended England's first-ever men's singles Commonwealth gold medal with one of the finest performances of his career yesterday with a 15-8, 15-8 victory over Sze Yu, the Chinese-born Australian, whose wing-heeled performances made him the unofficial favourite.

The top-seeded left-hander from Enfield, who has been a hero for England in two Thomas Cups, would not commit himself on whether the all-out attack which penetrated the defence of one of the world's most mobile players had been his best performance. "But it was the one that gave me the most pleasure," he said.

There were special reasons for saying so. Four years ago at Brisbane Baddeley had also been the top seed but became ill and had a temperature of 104. Six months ago he relinquished his most memorable title when the sportingly agreed to play in the English national championships immediately after returning from the Far East in order to support the sponsor and television. Now he has another, and England's one, and justice has been done.

England won the other singles gold when Helen Troke retained her women's title with another professional performance in beating her compatriot, Fiona Elliott, 11-4, 11-4.

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YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Table with columns for Athletics, Bowls, Boxing, Wrestling, Badminton, Women, and Shooting. Lists winners and scores for various events.

Faith pays dividend for Loban

Noel Loban, England's light-heavyweight wrestler, went into his final against Doug Cox, of Canada, quoting the bible to himself...

After moving three points ahead in the first round he found himself at the receiving end of a clever Canadian tactic. Unable to overcome his opponent by outright wrestling, the Canadian managed to manoeuvre Loban into appearing passive.

Keeping cool, however, Loban took over tactical command. With two minutes to go, and five seconds to spare, he let the Canadian take a time ebb away, and the title came closer.

Asked about a possible future as a professional, he said he would do nothing but what he had talked things over with his wife. It was she who had made

Dickson survives his final gold test

New Zealand's Ian Dickson, 24, won the men's singles gold medal at Balglen yesterday when he beat Richard Corsie, aged 19, of Scotland, 21-12.

He is the second New Zealander to win the gold, the first being James Pirret at Auckland in 1950. With Peter Bell having won the World Championship at Aberdeen two years ago, New Zealand now hold the world's two principal singles titles.

Dickson began preparing five months ago. His abductor club, the Leith, put a specially treated green at his disposal so that he could become accustomed to the heavy conditions expected in Edinburgh.

Wendy Line (England) won the women's singles gold medal on shot difference. Her closest rival, Senga McCrone (Scotland), had to beat Joan Humphreys (Hong Kong) and Eileen Whirling (Ireland) to take the gold, but lost 21-11 to Mrs Humphreys and took the silver.

Asked about a possible future as a professional, he said he would do nothing but what he had talked things over with his wife. It was she who had made

Kelly takes his place

Nigel Kelly, the Isle of Man's main hope for a Commonwealth medal, was well placed after the first two stages of the Skeet individual shooting event at Kippin yesterday, although appearing somewhat nervous under the pressure.

Kelly, aged 22, dropped just one bird from a possible 50 to share the lead on 147 with Brian Gabriel.

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England cyclists have little to shout about

Home cyclists will not look back to kind on the track yesterday when Gary Nield won the Games in Edinburgh, and not just because of the miserable weather. England won a silver through Colin Sturgess, aged 17, of Leicester, in the 4,000 metres individual pursuit early in the week and a bronze in the 4,000 metres team pursuit on Thursday. Scotland won a bronze through Eddie Alexander, of Inverness, in the sprint.

Three medals from the United Kingdom is not too much to shout about when compared to the brilliant Australian team who made a clean sweep of all five track gold medals and threw in a silver and

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SPORT

Troubles left behind by de Castella

By Pat Butcher, Athletics Correspondent

Robert de Castella, of Australia, became the first man successfully to defend a Commonwealth marathon title yesterday, while his compatriot, Lisa Martin, won the inaugural women's race in a personal best time.

For de Castella the race ultimately proved less of a problem than the one he encountered two weeks ago when he was almost banned from the Australian team in a move which, he claimed yesterday, "would have had repercussions up to government level."

De Castella, who, like Mrs Martin, is based in the United States, wanted to compete in a road race in Kansas on July 12. The Australian athletics authorities told de Castella, however, that as a team member he was contracted to attend a match against Belgium and England Under-23 in Brussels the following day. If he were not present, he was told, he would be dropped from the team.

De Castella, who also holds the world's fastest marathon time this year with the 2hr 7min 51sec he set in Boston in April, said yesterday: "What upset me most was that several of the team members were prepared to vote against me as well. There are still people annoyed at the idea of somebody making money out of the sport."

In the event, de Castella ran the 10km race in the United States, finishing second to Britain's John Doherty, and caught a succession of connecting flights "in order to arrive in Belgium at ten the next morning and sit and watch the match in the afternoon."

Yesterday, his problems behind him, de Castella took an immediate lead, putting in a series of surges which eventually got rid of his last opponent, John Graham of Scotland, by 17 miles. The Australian's victory was such that he was able to look around and relax in the final stages and enjoy his victory.

More Games reports and results, Page 30

The five mile 'splits' were indicative of de Castella's domination of the race. He led every one of them, clocking 24min 24sec, 49.27, 1hr 13min 37sec, 1:38.31 and 2:04.05. The cheer when he came into the stadium to win by almost a minute in 2:10.15 was, to put it mildly, in distinct contrast to the reception the Prime Minister had got when she took her seat an hour earlier.

Despite his insistence on staying in Kansas to run his "money" race, de Castella knows his priorities. He said: "It's just not satisfying enough to win the big money races and not win the championships as well."

His only championship setback since he won the same title in Brisbane and the world title in Helsinki in 1983, was to finish fifth in the 1984 Olympic Games. His immediate plan is to race in New York in October and then begin preparation for next year's World Championships in Rome, and the next Olympic Games in Seoul.

The challenge that everyone expected from Charlie Spedding lasted for only 10 miles. Spedding, England's Olympic bronze medal winner, was, like many unsuccessful marathon runners, at a loss to explain why he felt so bad that he dropped out after 20 miles. He said: "My preparation had gone as well as for any marathon. I felt good enough to beat Deke, and at worst I thought I'd finish second."

Dave Edge, former Blackpool and Fylde club member, now running for Canada, was second in 2:11.08, taking two seconds off his previous best time, while a surprising third was another Australian, Steve Monaghan, running his first marathon. Monaghan, fifth in the 10,000 metres last Saturday, only decided to apply for the vacant marathon place three months ago, and only lost the silver medal to Edge in the last 400 metres on the track.

Mrs Martin's victory in 2:26.07, also a personal best, was even more decisive than that of de Castella. She had decided the night before that the last thing she should do was to lead at any stage before the last couple of miles — the aim was to leave the incentive to Lorraine Moller, of New Zealand, who has beaten Mrs Martin consistently in the past. The Australian, in fact, set from the start, moving immediately away from Miss Moller and increasing her lead throughout to win by more than two minutes. Miss Moller was second in 2:28.17 and Odette Lapiere, of Canada, was third, in 2:31.48.

Leaping the pain barrier

By Pat Butcher

Joyce Oladapo, of England, won the Commonwealth long jump title yesterday with the only jump that the pain from an injured foot would permit her to take.

Miss Oladapo developed a stress fracture of her right foot, the one that she uses to take off for the long jump, at the end of April. It is still injured. "I knew I had to get it right on my first jump," she said. "The pain was so bad that I ran through a second attempt. I risked everything on the first one and fortunately it came off."

Miss Oladapo's winning jump of 6.43 metres was no great result in world terms but with 30 centimetres, less than a foot, between the first and seventh place, it was a great

competition. Mary Berkeley, also of England, was second with 6.40 metres and Robyn Lorrway, of Australia, was third with 6.35.

Sally Gunnell and Wendy Jeal had another 1-2 for England in the 100 metres hurdles final, with 13.29 and 13.41 seconds respectively, beating Glynnis Nunn, of Australia, the Olympic heptathlon champion, who was third in 13.44.

The two English women and their colleague, Lesley Ann Skeete, who finished fifth, revealed that they had all received a good wishes card from the champion, Shirley Strong, whose injuries last year had caused her to miss selection for these championships.

The second touching incident came with the awards of silver and bronze medals in the high jump behind the Australian winner, Christine Stanton. Second and third were Sharon McPeake and Janet Boyle, both setting personal bests of 1.90 metres, two centimetres behind Miss Stanton. For the medals were presented by one of the heroines of British track and field, Mary Peters, also of Northern Ireland.

Steve Cram swung his way towards the Commonwealth 800-1,500 metres double when he easily qualified for today's final at the longer distance, winning in 3 minutes 43.98 seconds. John Gladwin was second.



Mixed double: Australian colleagues Robert de Castella and Lisa Martin celebrate each other's victory in yesterday's marathon events (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

FOOTBALL

Butcher hits the high road

By Hugh Taylor

Rangers created a record in Scottish transfer fees yesterday when they completed the transfer of Terry Butcher, England's World Cup centre half, for a sum believed to be £750,000. The capture of the Ipswich Town defender brings Rangers' summer investment in new players to £2 million and will make Butcher probably the highest-paid player in the country.

Built on the formidable lines of centre halves who have become Ibrox legends, the newcomer is to become club captain and he said he was delighted to join a club as ambitious as Rangers.

"I know many people are surprised that I have decided to come to Scotland when I could have joined a top English club," Butcher said, "but I always knew Rangers were one of the biggest clubs in Europe and I have been even more impressed since seeing

the magnificent stadium and talking to the manager, Graeme Souness."

Butcher will not play against Tottenham Hotspur, one of the clubs who are interested in him, in today's friendly at White Hart Lane, but he is assured of an ecstatic welcome from a capacity 45,000 crowd at Ibrox on Tuesday when he leads out Rangers for a warm-up match with Bayern Munich.

The supporters of Rangers, for so long starved of higher success, can hardly wait for the start of the season and they may see yet another new face in the team on Tuesday. Souness is talking today to officials of Maccabi and he is hopeful that he will conclude the transfer of Avi Cohen, with whom he played at Liverpool, in time for the Israeli international defender to partner Butcher against Bayern.

If Cohen joins Rangers it

will end, for the time being, at least, the astonishing spending spree which earlier saw Souness, Woods and West become Scottish football's most expensive imports.

Delighted that he has acquired one of the world's most outstanding centre halves, Souness, whose work rate since he became player-manager has been untiring, indicated that his first objective was to prevent "the loss of silly goals".

Certainly he has pleased these Rangers enthusiasts who have maintained that the real secret of their team's success in the past was a strong, backbone of outstanding goalkeeper, centre half and centre forward. The fact that the new Rangers spine of Woods, West and Butcher is a pure English construction will not matter a jot to the Ibrox following if they bring trophies back to a bare cupboard.

End of Buckley's reign at Walsall

Alan Buckley was sacked as Walsall manager yesterday following the takeover of the third division club by London businessman Terry Ramsden. Coach Gerry Pendrey was also dismissed. The new manager, Enzo Bearzot, who led Italy to the World Cup championship in Spain four years ago but the holders were eliminated in the second-round at the finals in Mexico this year.

However, Bearzot has not been dismissed by the Italian Football Federation. He has been named supervisor and co-ordinator of the national teams, including the under-21 and Olympic squads. Federation sources said Vicini and Bearzot were going to operate jointly, with the latter supervising the work of the new manager.

Consolation

Susan Shapcott, beaten in the final of the England women's golf championship two months ago, yesterday won the English girls' title at Huddersfield. Shapcott, aged 16, from Bristol, who won the British girls' championship last year, was three-under-par when she completed her 7 and 6 victory over Nicola Way — the younger sister of Ryder Cup golfer Paul Way — in the final.

Miss Shapcott, who now goes on to defend her British title at West Kilbride later this month, was much the more solid hitter of the two.

Buckley, who has been at Walsall as player and manager for more than ten years, said "I am shocked after the success we have had in building two good teams in the past four years and reaching the semi-final of the Milk Cup".

Both he and Pendrey recently signed new one-year contracts. Ramsden, who is understood to have paid £400,000 to

acquire 62 per cent of the shares, has worked with Coakley — who played nine times for Arsenal in 1966 — in non-league football.

He announced plans to improve the stadium and said old age pensioners would be admitted to matches free of charge this season. Those who attended 10 games would get a turkey at Christmas.

SPORT IN BRIEF

New man for Italy

Azilio Vicini has been appointed the manager of the Italian national football team. He replaces Enzo Bearzot who led Italy to the World Cup championship in Spain four years ago but the holders were eliminated in the second-round at the finals in Mexico this year.

However, Bearzot has not been dismissed by the Italian Football Federation. He has been named supervisor and co-ordinator of the national teams, including the under-21 and Olympic squads. Federation sources said Vicini and Bearzot were going to operate jointly, with the latter supervising the work of the new manager.

Transfer hitch

St Helens yesterday lost out on two signings from Australia (Keith Macklin writes). They had expected to sign Neil Baker, a half back, and Craig Dimond, a forward, from the South Sydney and Cronulla clubs, and agreement had been reached. However, South Sydney announced a change of mind and will not release Baker, while Dimond suffered an injury last Sunday and needs an operation.

Training row

Hull Rugby League club have transfer-listed two players for missing pre-season training. They are the former Great Britain prop Trevor Skerrett and Andy Gascoigne, a scrum half. Both players have told the club they cannot attend training three times a week because of work commitments.

Short fuse

Middlesbrough have until Monday to prove they can continue as a Football League club. David Dent, the assistant League secretary, said: "Middlesbrough are living on a time bomb and it could go off on Monday. We have given them the weekend to come up with a rescue package." Middlesbrough, wound up in the High Court with debts of £1.9 million, were forced to cancel a friendly match at Hartlepool last night.

New reprieve

Wolverhampton Wanderers look certain to be playing in the fourth division when League football begins on August 23. League officials met the Official Receiver yesterday and agreed to extend a deadline for the reconstruction of the club.

England job in Australia for Stewart

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

The England team in Australia next winter will be captained by Mike Gatting and managed by Peter Lush, Public Relations and Marketing manager of the Test and County Cricket Board. The assistant manager will be Micky Stewart and the physiotherapist Laurie Brown.

In other words, the conservatives with the TCCB have won the day, though for the first time the assistant manager's role has been defined in writing. In announcing the four choices, Raman Subba Row, chairman of the board, stressed that the captain, and no one else, would be in charge of the cricket. Because this is considered fundamental to the success of the England team, both at home and away, a football-style "supremo" has not been appointed. David Brown, Warwickshire's cricket manager, and Ray Illingworth were both asked how they saw the assistant manager's job, but only Stewart was offered it.

After the tour has been reviewed next Spring, and if both sides so wish it, Stewart could again be offered a two or three year contract carrying with it the title of team manager. The party's fitness, their practice arrangements and day-to-day discipline will be his special responsibility in Australia. As a member of the tour committee he will also be a selector.

As the senior officers Messrs Gatting, Lush and Stewart are obviously of less fame and experience than some of their predecessors: Jardine, Warner and Palreart in 1932-33 for example, or Peter May, Freddie Brown, Desmond Eagar and George Duckworth (baggage master) in 1958-59.

But Micky Stewart is a man of strong principles and Mr Lush, who managed the En-

gland B side to Sri Lanka last winter, is a specialist in public relations. He went to Lord's as one of the TCCB's assistant secretaries in 1974. He is 47 and was previously in advertising. Stewart, who is 53, has been cricket manager of Surrey since 1979. He toured India with the MCC side of 1963-64 and has taken two Surrey youth sides to Australia. His son, Alec, is one of several promising young cricketers coming through at the Oval.

While Messrs Lush and Stewart were meeting the press at Lord's yesterday evening, Gatting was elsewhere in the pavilion helping to choose the England team for next week's second Test match against New Zealand amid rumours that David Gower was to be given a rest. If so, the timing of it will be profoundly ironic, for it was he who fought hardest of all to get Gatting to India two years ago. Gatting, I am sure, would not have wanted to drop him now, but although he will be able to get his way in Australia over matters such as that, at the moment he is only one of five selectors.

Sussex, who begin Eastbourne cricket week with a match against Essex starting today, rest Imran Khan, their Pakistan all-rounder (the Press Association reports). However, he will return for the John Player Special League match between the teams tomorrow.

Northamptonshire will be back at full strength against Middlesex at Lord's today as they seek their fifth championship win. Lamb and Harper return after the matches at Jesmond, and Larkins, Mallerder and Waterton will all take their places in the side after resting during the county's match against the New Zealanders.

Fairbrother in the driving seat

By Richard Streeton

LEICESTER: Lancashire beat Leicestershire by 6 wickets

Neil Fairbrother, with a mastery 93 not out, steered Lancashire into the semi-finals of the NatWest Trophy yesterday as Leicestershire yielded with a surprising lack of resolve. Lancashire, needing a further 139 from 37 overs, lost only one more wicket and won easily with 6.3 overs in hand.

After two miserably wet and cloudy days, the sun shone brilliantly as Fairbrother and O'Shaughnessy finished the game with a scintillating stand of 93 in 19 overs. Fairbrother, who had come in on Thursday evening with Lancashire 28 for three, was completely dominant and was given the man-of-the-match award by Roy Marshall.

Nothing went right for Leicestershire, who were let down by their bowlers. Ferris could seldom find a proper line or length and was guilty of a number of wides and no balls, while De Freitas began well but started to over-pitch and was freely punished. O'Shaughnessy, on 18 and with the total on 172, was missed by Potter at first slip off Ferris and this was the last, slim opportunity Leicesters-

shire had to stay in the match. The Lancashire batsmen were able to sustain a comfortable momentum from the start, with Fairbrother constantly finding the gaps as he drove and pulled 13 fours. The scoring slowed briefly as O'Shaughnessy played himself in, but Lancashire never lost the initiative for long.

Abrahams, who, the day before, had helped Fairbrother turn the tide after some early setbacks, stayed a further 12 overs before he was well caught by Potter at short mid-on, trying to loft Willey into the deep. Lancashire needed 77 from the last 20 overs, but the mathematics soon became superfluous as the runs flowed.

LEICESTERSHIRE 223 for 8 (80 overs) JP De Freitas 65, W Alton 4 for 28, AJ Hayhurst 4 for 40.

LANCASHIRE 192 for 12 G Fowler 6, G Taylor 3, G D Mendis 6, W Hedges 6, J Agnew 2, J Abraham 2, Potter 1, Willey 3, C J Lloyd 2, Gower 1, W Alton 1, N H Fairbrother not out 93, S J O'Shaughnessy not out 18, Extras (6-5-1-16, 16, 16).

Total (4 wets, 58.3 overs) 228
J J Stannorth, M Watkinson, J Stannorth, P W Alton and N H Hayhurst did not bat.
Fall of wickets: 1-4, 9-2; 2-8, 4-133.

BOWLING: Agnew 11-5-30-1, Taylor 9-1-55-2, De Freitas 10-1-52-2, Potter 9-1-7-0, Willey 12-1-46-1, Ferris 9-4-49-0, Gower 0.3-0-0-0.
Umpires: D O Osler and B Leachester.
Photograph, page 29

Draw that Botham on top of first final

Worcestershire's prospects of reaching the NatWest Trophy final for the first time for 20 years, received a boost when they were drawn at home against Sussex in the semi-finals on Wednesday week. The game is a repeat of the first limited-over final back in 1963. It was then the Gillette Cup, 65 overs per side, and Sussex won.

Worcestershire's only other appearance in the September final was in 1966, when they were beaten by Warwickshire. Their last appearance at Lord's on a big cup day was in the 1976 Benson and Hedges final, when they were again losers, this time to Kent. Worcestershire are certainly giving their home crowd value for money.

Botham on top of the world

Ian Botham prepared for his return to senior cricket with a power-packed innings of 94 for an England XI against a Rest of the World side at Jesmond yesterday. His timing after a nine-week suspension was remarkable as he made his runs from 57 balls with the help of six sixes and 10 fours and helped the England XI to a win by three wickets. Botham returns to the first-class game for Somerset against Worcestershire at Weston-super-Mare today.

The Rest of the World attack consisted of Marshall and Holding operating off shortened runs and Border bowling spin. Botham's biggest hit against Border landed on the roof of a terraced home for money. His spectacular display followed a fine performance with the ball when he took three for 33 and inspired a collapse by the Rest of the World. He had conceded 26 runs from five overs before his first success. Harper trying to run a delivery down to third man but succeeding only in presenting Pringle with a catch at slip.

Later, at the end of his eighth over, Botham took the wickets of Holding and Lillee in two balls. REST OF THE WORLD 276 (C G Greenidge 74, A R Border 61, J K Lever four for 67), ENGLAND XI 277 for seven (I T Botham 94, R A Harper four for 38).

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YACHTING

When top contender is not rated

By Barry Pickthall

Graham Walker, president of Britain's America's Cup challenge, was forced to withdraw his Threequarter-Ton Cup contender, *Indignance*, from the Channel Race hours before the start at Cowes last night because his yacht did not have a valid rating certificate.

The 210-mile Cowes Week opener also forms the final selection trial for the British Threequarter-Ton Cup team and, having also missed the first offshore trial last weekend, Walker's yacht may now be discounted for a place in the British team — despite having won four of the six inshore trial races.

A disappointed Walker explained yesterday that a rating check made on his yacht two weeks ago indicated that the Andrien design measured 0.1 feet, higher than the Threequarter-Ton limit, which he thought was caused by the changes in the method of measuring the yacht's inclination factor.

Last weekend the skipper agreed to have 40kg removed from the yacht's keel to rectify the discrepancy but since then the winds have been too strong for a further inclination test to be made.

The selectors, who are due to announce Britain's 10-boat team for the world championship on Monday, are faced with the dilemma of either using their discretionary powers to include Walker and his crew in the line-up or discard this top cup contender, leaving the French an opportunity to charter her for their team.

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